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"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

PASSIVITY.

It may appear passing strange, but it is not more strange than true, that the question remains until this day undecided, whether a man does wrong in doing *nothing*, when a power whose authority is usurped commands him to do something which he ought not to do. The problem is as follows. Given, usurpation—given, an order issued by usurpation to do wrong—given, a simple determination to be quiet, to take no notice of the order, and to abide by the consequences of neglect; required, wherein consists the wrong of the passivity in such case exhibited? One would have imagined that the moral arithmetic of this sum was tolerably simple—that the answer may be found without any curious calculation—that the real difficulty would be to make any mistake—and that nothing but a mystification of terms could prevent men from coming to a correct conclusion. Take the naked ideas as they stand. It matters not what they represent. Let them be treated simply as abstract figures, the 1, 2, 3, 4, of a moral question—applicable or not applicable to existing times. A power which ought not to be, commands a thing which ought not to be done, and the party commanded *does* nothing—*suffers* only the wrong which the other inflicts; wherein stand the guilt and the disgrace of the sufferer?

It is possible, we admit, to perplex this plainest of all matters by the mode of clothing these abstract ideas, these undisguised elements of the whole question at issue. We may manage to trick out governments with such fantastic rights, as to bewilder our notions on the subject of usurpation; or we may draw such wiry distinctions between the commands themselves and the intent of them, as to lose sight entirely of the right and wrong of the matter; or we may, by the force of imagination, modify "to suffer" so completely into "to do"—"to bear" into "to resist"—"to be defrauded" into "to defraud," as to get up a case of rebellion against a man for daring to endure what "the powers that be" inflict. But then the confusion, in this case, belongs to us and not to the subject. If we insist upon working out the sum by a multiplicity of figures when few will suffice—if we are determined at all hazards not to resort to decimals—if, in short, we resolve to bother ourselves, and to mystify our conclusion by looking at the subject in all the complexity of accidental details, instead of viewing it, apart from all circumstances, in its radical principles—why then, error becomes easy, and before we have got to the end of the process, in all probability, we shall have got wrong. Some trivial bye consideration being unsound, will vitiate our whole conclusion; and, if we suspect a mistake, which is not very likely, months of toil will scarce suffice to satisfy us where the mistake is.

We are not about to argue, in this place, that Christ's kingdom is not of this world. Dissenters of all denominations profess this. In spiritual matters they hold man's independence of all human authority. To legislate in reference to these is an assumption of power which belongs exclusively to God. The civil magistrate who presumes to interfere with the religion of his subjects—who essays to wield authority within the domains of conscience—who takes upon him unbidden the oversight of the church, and charges himself with the maintenance of divine institutions, is regarded by dissenters as an usurper, precisely to this extent. Every command which he utters within this sphere is, *ipso facto*, null and void. In his own house, a man may reasonably expect his orders to be obeyed—but, in the house of another, orders the most peremptory given by him, are simply out of place and nothing worth. There, he is an intruder. Or take another illustration. A joint-stock company, with a view to the management of some special business, devolve upon a committee the drawing up of certain regulations having reference to that business, and, of course, every member is bound to conform to the rules agreed upon. But these managers, not content with the limited sphere within which their authority was meant to range, take upon themselves to regulate the domestic affairs of every proprietor, and issue orders trenching upon the independence of home. We need not waste time in an attempt to prove that such orders are destitute of a particle of force. Common sense determines that; and common sense, as well as Christianity, decides how the commands of the committee of that joint-stock company called "the state," when, instead of having reference to the safety of property and person, for which authority was given them, they relate to the religion of the country, are to be regarded. Be this, however, as it may, this is the light in which dissenters view the matter, upon their own showing. Legislation, in respect of religion by secular rulers, they declare to be impious usurpation.

It so happens, moreover, that in this land of ours there exists an ecclesiastical establishment, which, besides being, in the judgment of nonconformists, essentially vicious in its constitution, embodies some of the most pernicious doctrinal errors—errors which go to the entire subversion of pure Christianity. To many of the delusions

taught by the clergy, our friends would hesitate to give the smallest countenance. To promote their stability or progress, would be regarded as doing a grievous wrong, both to the world and to the world's Supreme ruler. The efficacy of sacraments, which the church of England teaches both in its catechism and in its offices, dissenters of all shades of sentiment repudiate as "another gospel." Well! the state steps in and says—"Support the efficacy of sacraments—support the men who teach it—support the buildings in which it is taught—support the worship of those who profess it." Now does the civil power, in this matter, command us to do wrong—command us to do what, voluntarily to do, would be wrong? Here, then, we have wrong-doing ordered by usurped authority.

There are not a few, and their number, we would fain hope, is rapidly increasing, who upon principle pay no attention to the mandate. In popular language they are styled "recusants," and are said to resist ecclesiastical demands. There is no necessity for arraigning current phraseology. Nevertheless, it is not unimportant that we should acquaint ourselves accurately with the thing which such terms are used to denote. It would render obsolete, we cannot but think, a vast amount of blame with which these men stand charged. For what is it they do? Literally nothing. They simply do *not* do. They keep on quietly in the path of that form of religion which their judgment approves, molesting no one, hindering no one. And when called out of that path, by an authority founded upon the worst kind of usurpation, all that can be said of them is, that they heed not the call. They are summoned more peremptorily—they take no notice. Their property is despoiled—they submit to the extortion. All the *activity* is on the side of the state-church—all the *passivity* is on the side of the recusants. They are bidden to support error by a power which has no right to bid them, and they decline paying the smallest attention to the order, preferring rather to bear the consequences.

We say the question is not yet decided among dissenters, whether the conduct of these members of the passive school be not unjustifiable—whether, when they are summoned by a usurping power to support a form of worship which their conscience repudiates, they ought not at once to do its bidding—whether they are at liberty not to be active in their obedience to ecclesiastical demands. Now, we must observe, that we esteem it a disgrace to dissenters that so important a principle of Christian ethics should be evaded by almost all their public bodies, their religious associations—and, if no other reason pressed for convoking a conference, the necessity for a serious and manly discussion of this matter would, in our opinion, be reason strong enough. We never knew anything gained by tabooing inconvenient subjects but well-merited contempt.

PARSON'S JUSTICE.

ANOTHER case of ecclesiastical oppression is gradually unwinding itself in the court of Arches. We know not how it is, but so it is, that churchism turned sour is the most ascetic of all principles of action. It moves not simply to cruelty, but to spitefulness, which perhaps is but a smaller species of the same genus. It spits, and scratches, and worries, where it cannot at once despatch its victims. We insert below, from a respected correspondent, an interesting account of the party against whom these proceedings are yet pending; and a brief summary of the case up to the present time:—

The defendant is an humble and conscientious dissenter—an industrious shoemaker, struggling amidst many difficulties honestly to maintain his family. He was selected as a victim for citation by letters of request to the Arches' court (the first move of which involves an expense of about 8*l.* or 10*l.*) for two rates, amounting to 8*s.* 4*d.*, while many others, in better circumstances, were passed by, although they had for years, like him, refused to pay the church rate. It is necessary, in order to a correct understanding of the hardship of this case, to state that Romford is a vicarage (independent of Hornchurch, which is also a vicarage); has a church or chapel; appoints all its own parochial officers, chapel wardens, overseers of the poor, surveyors of the highways, &c.; and that rates are collected for the support of its church. In the year 1803 the parish of Hornchurch, on the authority of an ancient deed, dated in 1410, asserted a right to rate the inhabitants of Romford to their church rate, on the pretence of its being the mother church; but with singular maternal affection, if any of the inhabitants of Romford desire to bury their deceased friends in the parochial burial ground at Hornchurch, double fees are exacted from them, as is the case with all non-residents; and Mr Bearblock, the churchwarden, has actually entered a protest on the vestry book, denying that they have a right to be present at the vestries when church rates are made, or their expenditure discussed. The defendant appeared in July, 1841, in obedience to the citation, and prayed to be allowed to plead *in forma pauperis*, which the Court, after affidavits were produced on both sides, refused, and a libel was produced on the part of the churchwardens. The defendant, not knowing how to proceed with his defence, and not having the means of employing doctors and proctors, requested and obtained the assistance of some friends of religious liberty, who had a slight acquaintance with the proceedings of the court. He determined to resist to the utmost what he considered an unjust impost; and, with a perseverance which does him credit, he has attended about twenty times on the Court.

An answer to the libel has been put in, and several witnesses

examined on interrogatories. The defendant has presented a responsive allegation, and on Wednesday, the 1st June, it was opposed by Dr Addams; and with rare consistency the Doctor, who opposed the defendant's pleading *in forma pauperis*, and produced affidavits, among others one from Bearblock, stating that defendant had a large shop well stocked with goods, &c. &c., now complains that he, being a poor man, should have caused the churchwardens to incur such heavy expenses, when, if they should succeed, they had no hope of obtaining their costs from him. These questions may with propriety be asked—have they a right to complain? who was it that cited him?—have they been disappointed in not finding him the easy victim they anticipated?—have they been foiled in an attempt to make him an example to deter others?

It is to be regretted, also, that cases of this kind are heard before judges who, from their education, prejudices, and the source from which they obtain their appointments, cannot but have their feelings and judgments warped to one side of the question. This was illustrated on Wednesday last. Dr Addams was allowed to attribute motives to the defendant—such as being desirous of becoming a church-rate martyr—a systematic opposition, in conjunction with others throughout the country, to oppose church rates, &c.—without interruption from the judge; but when the defendant alluded to the charge of double fees for burials, and Bearblock's protest, he was immediately stopped by the judge because it did not appear in the pleadings. It is surely high time that the Arches' court, and all other ecclesiastical courts where there exists no jury, and where canon laws, and not the common and statute law, of our country have unconstitutionally the power of expensive process and tyrannical oppression, should be exterminated, or essentially reformed.

A case more deserving of the liberal subscriptions of friends of religious liberty has scarcely ever occurred, as this harassing and vindictive affair has injured poor Piggott both as to his customers and credit. There is but little doubt that, although the case is not yet finally abandoned, its similarity to the case of *Chesterton v. Farlar*, must place the plaintiff in a hopeless condition.

THE HORNCHURCH CHURCH RATE CASE.

In the Arches court on Wednesday last, the case of Mr Piggott, of Romford, for subtraction of church rates, came on for hearing. The libel, which was for the recovery of two rates for 3s. 4d. and 5s., had been admitted, and the following responsive allegation was now offered by the defendant, who conducted his case in person.

"1. This respondent alleges that the parish of Hornchurch has no legal authority for charging the inhabitants of Romford with their said church rates, the inhabitants of Romford having a distinct parochial jurisdiction, electing their own officers, and charged with a rate for the support of their own church; and it does not appear, by any record to which the respondent has had access, that such charges were made previous to the year 1803. This respondent requests to be allowed to examine the records of the parish, to ascertain if any such charge was made previous to the year 1803 aforesaid; and, if any, its date, the time and reason of its being discontinued, and the reason of its revival in the year aforesaid.

"2. That it is falsely pleaded in the libel that due legal notice of the vestries at which the rates were made was given, as notices were not placed on or near the doors of all the churches and chapels in the parish of Hornchurch and chapelry of Romford, according to the provisions of the act 1st Victoria, cap. 45.

"3. That it is falsely pleaded that the rates were made for and towards the repairing the parish church, and for supplying the churchwardens with necessary funds to defray incidental charges appertaining to their office for the then current year, as it will appear to be retrospective; having been made and applied in part to pay a sum of money borrowed in the year 1832, to defray certain charges incurred several years before the said year 1832; and they were not made or intended to be used to defray incidental charges only, but to provide funds for defraying the charges of parish feasts, sidesman's salary, clerk and sexton's clothes, and drink for bell-ringers on rejoicing days, which will be fully proved by a reference to the churchwarden's accounts to the respondent's answer annexed.

"4. This respondent alleges that he was not rightly and equally assessed; and refers to the exhibits to the libel annexed, and the total amount of the rates, as amply proving this allegation.

"5. Respondent denies that he is rightly subjected to the jurisdiction of this court, as the deed on which the churchwardens rely as their authority for rating the inhabitants of Romford, states that it is in the diocese of London, and the authority of the Bishop of London is petitioned for and granted to confirm it, whereas the libel states it is a peculiar, exempt from the jurisdiction of the see of London.

"6. That John Bearblock and R. H. Newman were not duly elected churchwardens, due legal notice not having been given of the vestry when such election was said to be made.

"7. That this suit was not commenced during the year of office of John Bearblock and Thos Wedlap, said to be appointed Easter, 1839, or of the said John Bearblock and R. H. Newman, said to be appointed Easter, 1840; and this respondent alleges that it is not competent for them to commence such proceedings after the expiration of their year of office.

"8. That the rate made in 1840 is excessive; the amount is stated at £313 8s. 11d., and it will appear, by reference to the churchwardens' accounts, that only £105 15s. 10d. of that rate was expended by the churchwardens in that year, even including the retrospective payments and the charges for feasts, sidesman's salary, &c., which this respondent alleges in the third article to be unnecessary and illegal.

"9. That the churchwardens have no authority for applying any part of these rates for the repairs of St Edward's chapel, Romford."

Dr ADDAMS opposed the admission of the responsive allegation of the defendant. He asserted that the defendant must be either actuated by a desire, in conjunction with other parties, systematically to oppose church rates, and who were found stimulating and advising them in that court, or he was ambitious of being a church rate martyr; it was ridiculous to suppose that the payment of the small sum of 8s. 4d.

was the object. It was to be deprecated that churchwardens should be put to the enormous expense necessary in that present state of the law to recover the rates; and if they did not proceed to recover the rates, the parishioners who paid the rates censured them for laxity in the performance of their duty. Here was a poor man opposing the payment of the rate, and putting the churchwardens to an enormous expense by protracting the suit, and if they should be ultimately successful, what hope had they of obtaining their costs of the defendant? He submitted that the court ought to discourage every attempt to resist payment in cases similar to the present, evidently persisted in from litigious motives. He had no objections to make to the form of the allegations—they were concise, simple, and plain; but he contended that the whole of them were objectionable and inadmissible. The first denying the right of Hornchurch to charge the inhabitants of Romford with church rates, not stating any reasons for that denial, could not be received. The second, denying that due legal notice had been given of holding the vestry, inasmuch as notices had not been placed on or near the doors of all churches and chapels in the parish, could not be admitted, as it was not necessary to fix notices on Methodist and Unitarian, and such like chapels; they could prove that notices had been placed on the church and episcopal chapel, and that he contended was all that was necessary. As to the third article, the money stated to be borrowed was obtained with the full sanction and approbation of the vestry; and as to the objection to feasts, &c., this he submitted was no objection to the rate, but the persons who supposed such charges objectionable should attend the vestry, and oppose the passing the churchwardens' accounts. The rate was due as soon as made, and the defendant had no right to neglect payment of the rate till after the churchwardens' accounts were passed, and then make frivolous objections to the payment of the rate on the ground of some expenditure which he might consider objectionable.

Sir H. J. FUST stated that the judicial committee of the privy council, in the case of *Chesterton and Hutchins v. Farlar*, decided that retrospective rates were inadmissible, and the churchwardens' accounts were admitted as proof that such payments had been made, but it did not appear by the pleadings in this case, if the money was borrowed under the Church Building act, or otherwise.

Dr ADDAMS: I have no hesitation in admitting that the money was not borrowed under the Church Building act, and if the court is of opinion that the case of *Chesterton and Hutchins v. Farlar* is binding on them, it is useless to proceed, and my advice to my clients is that they proceed no further.

Sir H. JENNER FUST: The admissibility of the allegations is the only thing I have now to consider.

Dr ADDAMS then proceeded to object to the fourth article, on the inequality of the rate, and submitted that it must be dismissed on account of its vagueness. The fifth article was inadmissible, as the objection, if at all valid, ought to have been taken at the commencement of the suit. The sixth objection, as to due legal notice not having been given, had been already alluded to in the second article and answered. To the seventh, Dr Addams contended that churchwardens had a right to recover the arrears of rates not collected by their predecessors. To the eighth he objected, as the parties opposing ought to have made the objections when the accounts were passed, and previous to the rate being made, and that the objection now was inadmissible. The ninth, as to the right of paying part of the repairs of the chapel at Romford, was too vague to be admitted.

The defendant then read the following reply:—Waiving all considerations that, as a dissenter, I might urge, on being called on to pay for the support of a church from which I conscientiously dissent, I would beg to call the attention of the court to the disadvantages with which I am surrounded, unused to and unacquainted with the proceedings of this court, and unable to pay for the assistance of advocates or proctor, and having opposed to me one of the most acute advocates of this court, and a proctor experienced in all the subtleties and complicated intricacies of its proceedings. I trust, therefore, that allowance will be made if I have failed in bringing before the court this allegation according to the strict form of its proceedings. I would direct the attention of the court to the extreme hardship of the present charge on me; as an inhabitant of Romford I am called on to pay rates to the church at Romford, and I think that even an ardent adherent of the church as by law established, would consider it sufficient to pay rates for the church situated in the place where he is an inhabitant; but I am cited here for non-payment of a rate made for the support of another church, situated two miles and a half from Romford, treated as a stranger on making application to bury my deceased friends, and charged with double fees on the plea of my being a non-resident; and the churchwarden, Bearblock, the mainspring and cause of this vexatious suit, has actually entered a protest on the vestry book, denying the right of the inhabitants of Romford to attend vestries relative to the expenditure of rates, the major part of which the said inhabitants pay. This, I submit, can never be reconciled with any principles of justice or equity, and the court is bound to see that the rate is authorised by the strictest principle of law; and if so authorised, that it is confined in its objects within strict and clearly defined legal bounds. The first article of the allegation states that previous to the year 1803, as far as I have been able to ascertain, the parish of Hornchurch confined their church rate to the same limits as their other rates and tithes; and had they been guided by principles of equity and justice they would never have attempted to extend their church rates beyond those limits. That they have any legal ground for doing so I have yet to learn. I have been impressed with the notion that parish records should be accessible to all who pay the parish rates. I have requested to see them, to ascertain if there are any records, previous to the year 1803, of the making of a church rate on the inhabitants of Romford by the parish of Hornchurch, and if any, the reason of its discontinuance and revival; for I have been informed, and believe, that for upwards of 200 years previous to 1803, no such rate was made, and had the principles of equity and justice been the guide of the parochial authorities of Hornchurch at the present time, no such charge would have been made. I have not been able to obtain access to those records, and an application to the court having been unsuccessful, I think I have a right to demand that any and every document that will throw any light on the dark and unjust transaction, should be produced to the court and be accessible to me. On

the supposition that a legal right to charge the inhabitants of Romford with these rates has been established, I would submit that legal notice of holding vestries, strictly in accordance with the statute 1 Victoria, cap. 45, is imperatively necessary. The learned doctor opposed to me argued, in the Braintree case, for the right of the parishioners to rate themselves for the support of their church. I conclude that he would admit the right of the inhabitants of Romford to attend such vestries, and to have due legal notice of their being held. I submit to the court that a notice placed on the door of the parish church of Hornchurch, situated two miles and a half from Romford, is insufficient; for it will never, I trust, be contended, that it is necessary for the inhabitants of Romford to go that distance every Sunday through the year to seek for notices of holding vestries; and Bearblock, whom the learned doctor represents here, has denied the right of their attendance at these vestries. The act before alluded to requires that notices of holding vestries shall be placed on or near the door of all the churches and chapels in the parish or place; so does the Reform act as to notices of registers of, claims for, and objections to, voters; and the Poor-law Amendment act, as it respects elections of guardians. I need not call the attention of the court to the mode in which the latter acts are carried into execution, as it is notorious to all the inhabitants of the kingdom; and I respectfully submit to the Court that the churchwardens are bound to prove to the Court that the act 1 Vic., c. 45, has been strictly complied with in the present instance. The relevancy of the third article is, I think, plain from reference to the account of the churchwardens to my answer annexed. As to the retrospective part, I submit that the case of *Chesterton and Hutchins v. Farlar*, well known in this court, is decisive. The charges for parish feasts, sidesman's salary, drink for bell-ringers, rejoicing days, clerk's and sexton's clothes, &c., cannot, I submit, be legally charged on a church rate. Learned judges, I have heard, have stated that common law renders it obligatory on parishes to repair the fabric of the church. The law of nature requires that churchwardens and their friends should eat and drink, but neither that, nor common statute, nor ecclesiastical law enacts that it shall be at my expense. Is a salary for a sidesman necessary? What are his duties? I have heard them defined as attending all parish feasts, and taking care of the churchwardens when intoxicated. Is it a legal charge on church rates to provide drink for bell-ringers on rejoicing days? Does common, statute, or ecclesiastical law require that a salary shall be provided for a collector and vestry clerk? The 53 Geo. III., cap. 127, states that it is the duty of the churchwardens to collect and receive the rates, and the 58 Geo. III., cap. 69, requires that churchwardens shall provide books, and cause entries to be made of the proceedings of vestries, and no law that I know of authorises them to appoint a deputy and pay him out of the rates. Does either common, statute, or ecclesiastical law require that a rate shall be levied for the purpose of ornamenting the persons of the parish clerk and sexton? I submit it does not, and that the Court is bound, on every principle of equity and justice, if they consider it legal to charge Romford with Hornchurch church rates to see that it is confined to the strictest legal bounds. As to the relevancy of the 4th article, I submit it is the duty of the churchwardens to make an equal rate; that one or both of these are unequal, the exhibits to their libel annexed, I submit, abundantly prove. The relevancy of the 5th article rests on the deed said to be the authority for the claim of Hornchurch to exact from the inhabitants of Romford church rates; if an authority for that purpose, I submit it must be taken as an authority for Hornchurch being in the diocese of London, and not a peculiar, exempt from the jurisdiction of the see of London, as asserted in the libel. As to the relevancy of the 6th article, if the churchwardens of Hornchurch have any jurisdiction over the inhabitants of Romford, they have a right to be informed of the time of holding the vestries for their election according to the statute before referred to. As to the relevancy of the 7th article, I submit it is not competent to churchwardens to commence suits after the expiration of their year of office (see *Burn's Ecclesiastical Law*, 6th edition, page 413; *Dent against Prudence and Bond*). I refer to the churchwardens' accounts, to my answer annexed, to show the truth and relevancy of the 8th article. The total expenditure out of the rate, for the year 1840, is £105 15s. 11d., including the following charges, which I submit are not legal, viz.:—

Churchwardens' feast	£17	6	6
Servants of the church ditto	0	10	0
Bell ringers, for drink	4	4	0
Sidesman's salary	10	0	0
Vestry clerk	9	16	0
Payment to Bearblock, and interest	36	17	6
Paid for copies of Romford rates	3	3	0
For the repairs of St Edward's chapel	20	0	0
For new stoves	24	11	0

£126 8 0

As it respects the charge for stoves, I submit it ought not to be made a charge on the church rate; it is no doubt very accommodating to have lined and cushioned seats, and I imagine it would be as legal to provide such, and charge them to the parish, as stoves. Deducting the above sums, there would be a balance in hand, without making any rate for that year, and a balance of former rates, stated by the churchwardens to be uncollected from persons able to pay, and I beg to inform the Court that the balance is reserved for the purpose of carrying on this vexatious and harassing suit, and is, I believe, a prominent reason for its protraction; the proctor opposed to me being fully aware that ample funds are provided to pay him, whilst, amidst other difficulties, I have to contend with my inability, for want of funds, to meet the case by the assistance of learned advocates in this court. As to the relevancy of the 9th article, I submit that the churchwardens of Hornchurch have no right, without the authority of an act of parliament, to appropriate any part of the funds in their possession for the repairs of St Edward's chapel, Romford. Having called the attention of the Court to the different allegations, I would respectfully request that they may receive the careful consideration of the court; and that the unjust imposition of church rates for the support of a church situated in a place where I have neither property nor residence (and being called on to pay a rate for the church where I do reside, the vicar of which receives the tithes of Romford), will not be enforced by the authority of this court. If the church, as by law established, have in

its various courts, and by its officer, the strength and power of the lion, I would submit it would do well to exercise it, like that noble animal, with forbearance and generosity; and not like the wily, sly, and vindictive tiger, watch for their opportunity to pounce on its victims, and worry them to the utmost.

Sir H. JENNER FUST said that this was a question of the admissibility of certain articles of an allegation presented by the defendant. They were not presented in the form required by the court, but the defendant appearing personally, he should not object to them for informality. As to the first article, denying the right of the parish of Hornchurch to charge the inhabitants of Romford with church rates, it does not follow that because they had to pay rates for the chapel at Romford, that they were not to pay to the mother church. It stated that they had a distinct parochial jurisdiction at Romford. He did not understand what was meant by that; he supposed they elected chapelwardens, as was usual. He was of opinion that this article must be rejected. As to the second article, he wished to understand if the defendant averred that no notice was placed on the episcopal chapel at Romford.

The defendant stated that not attending the church, he could not himself state that no notice was placed there; but the chapelwardens had stated that no notices were placed there.

Sir HERBERT: Then, as the defendant will not aver this, I shall dismiss this article also, as I do not consider it necessary to place notices on sectarian chapels. As to the third article, I consider that money borrowed in 1832 cannot be for the repairs of the church in 1839 or 1840, and any part of the sum so borrowed that is paid in those years, must be retrospective; this part of the article I therefore think admissible. The charge for visitation expenses of 14l. 13s. in 1839, and 17l. 6s. 6d. in 1840, appear to me to be unjustifiable; when churchwardens have to attend visitations at a considerable distance, expenses are incurred which I think churchwardens ought to be allowed, but no such reason is stated here, and if indeed there were, the expense seems excessive.

Mr PIGGOTT: There are not above thirteen or fourteen persons dine there.

Sir HERBERT: I am at a loss to know what business thirteen or fourteen persons can have there. I profess not to know what is meant by sidesman's salary; it requires explanation, and I shall admit that. I think if a vestry, properly called, consent to the charge for drink for bell-ringers, as it is a small sum, and the charge for clerk and sextons' clothes, no fair objection can be made to it; that must be struck out. This article must be amended therefore. The fourth article relative to the inequalities of rating is inadmissible, it not pointing out those inequalities, and showing how the defendant is at all injured by them. The fifth article is inadmissible; if any objections existed as to the jurisdiction, it ought to have been protested against at the commencement of the proceedings. This must also be dismissed. The sixth article, denying that Bearblock and Newman were duly elected churchwardens, I shall admit. The seventh, denying the suit was commenced before the expiration of the year of office of the churchwardens, must be reformed. The eighth, asserting that the rate is excessive, is unnecessary, as if so, it will appear by the evidence given on the original libel and the answer thereto, without pleading it in a separate article; this must also be dismissed. The ninth I shall also dismiss as mere assertion, unsupported by any allegation or reason for denying the authority. I have thus gone through the articles of the allegation. The defendant must reform them, and be prepared to present them as reformed the next session, June 9.

On the same day a hearing was given to the case of the Rev. Mr Langley, curate of Wheatley, for brawling in the parish church. Mr LANGLEY was heard upwards of four hours in his own defence, and being much fatigued, the Court, at his request, consented that the case should be adjourned, for the conclusion of the defence, to the next court day.

On Friday last, at the Hackney petty sessions, several hundred inhabitants were summoned for non-payment of church rates, a large portion of whom were excused on the score of poverty. Mr C. Green said his objections to the rate were similar to those urged against the last. The churchwardens had decided upon testing the validity of that rate in the ecclesiastical court; and as the judgment given by Dr Lushington was yet under appeal, he suggested the propriety of deferring the consideration of his objections until the final adjudication of the suit in the Arches court. Mr Varty (ex-churchwarden) regretted he did not keep Mr Green in the ecclesiastical court. Mr Green said he had never asked to be taken out. Mr Roper wished to know whether the appellant would pledge himself to the payment of this rate, supposing Dr Lushington's decision were confirmed. Mr Green replied in the negative, and asked by whom the recovery of the present rate was sought, and when complaint was made. Mr Pulley (vestry clerk)—By Mr Mopsey, the late, and Mr Roper, the present, churchwarden. Mr Green then submitted that the summons was invalid; that it stated the complaint to have been "made by the churchwardens of Hackney." Mr Mopsey vacated office on the installation of his successor, April 28; the demand was made three weeks subsequent to his (Mr Mopsey's) retirement; and the summons, on his complaint, was granted on the 28th of May. He (Mr Green) contended that Mr Mopsey could not legally appear as complainant a month after he had quitted office. The act 57 Geo. III., c. 127, made it imperative that complaint shall be made by the churchwardens, whereas only one of the complainants was legally qualified. After some discussion the objection was overruled, and Mr Green then proceeded, at some length, to condemn the injustice of exacting church rates from dissenters, and the extravagant purposes to which the proceeds were applied. The Bench said they sat there to administer the law, not to enter into polemical discussions, or to treat of matters of conscience, and they should forthwith issue orders for payment. George Offor, Esq., then stepped forward, and complained of the short service of summons, and raised some technical objections to it, which the Bench overruled. He (Mr Offor) conceived the church rate as of the most irritating, vexatious, and unchristian character; and he would offer every constitutional opposition to its enforcement. As a magistrate he regretted that the intolerance of a dominant church compelled him to make that declaration, but the duties of conscience were paramount over all others. He called upon the

Bench, and upon the churchwardens, as Christians, to lend their aid in abolishing the obnoxious impost, by which the sacred name of religion is daily dishonoured. Mr Offor then maintained that the rate was invalidated by illegal expenditure, and that it was retrospective, the same estimates having been submitted in the month of July (when the rate was lost) and in the month of December, on the granting of the rate. He then submitted that the Bench should suspend their decision till Mr Nunn's case had been disposed of. The Bench inquired if Mr Offor would then pay the rate. Mr Offor—Certainly not: you may take my goods; you may drag my body to jail; but I never will bow to an earthly spiritual master. The Bench—Do you deny the validity of the rate? Mr Offor—Oh no; I would rather, with a rifle, meet a hungry tiger, than come into collision with the ecclesiastical court. The Bench—Then you must pay the rate. Mr Offor—My chairs and tables must do that. Several defaulters denied the validity of the rate, and the court broke up.

A church rate was asked for in St Mary's parish, Leicester, last week, and was negatived by an overwhelming majority of a numerous meeting of parishioners in vestry assembled. The churchwardens abstained from demanding a poll.

The majority against the Kingston church rate, at the final close of the poll on Tuesday, was 550.

On Thursday last, two parish vestries were held in the Latin school, Aylesbury, for the purpose of making a church rate, and passing the accounts of the last year. Since last August upwards of £300 have been spent in repairs and ornaments; and a rate of 6d. in the pound was asked for. An amendment to adjourn the meeting was proposed and seconded, but the chairman refused to put it to the meeting. Another amendment for a rate of 3d. in the pound was proposed, seconded, and negatived; and at length the original motion was carried. A poll was demanded by Mr J. Ivatts, the proposer of the 3d. rate, but refused by the churchwardens.

A correspondent, at Torrington, sends us the following curious account of a rat-catching parson:—Last week I had occasion to visit a village not a thousand miles from this town, where a gentleman of the place informed me of the fact, that the parson of the parish had turned rat catcher! The cause or design of this singular clerical freak, either ostensible or obvious, it is not the object of this brief notice to inquire. One practical use, however, I regard as worthy of remark—it is made the means of opposition to dissenters, especially to their Sunday school. Small as is the salary of this ecclesiastical servant (a curacy), seeing he is a single man, it would, I presume, afford him support, without pecuniary remuneration for destroying these troublesome vermin, or food for his two or three ferrets; so that he can probably afford to kill rats gratis. But my informant assured me of the fact, that from his clerical predilection for the establishment, this clergyman can condescend to stipulate these his (not official, but officious) services upon the condition that the children of the families where he catches, are sent to the church school! And if the parents will not promise to do that, but will persist in sending their children to the chapel school, he will not catch their rats! So between the influence of soup in the winter and rat killing in the summer, the dissenters have but a poor chance with these charitable clergyman. But sometimes obtrusive kindness meets a repulse. And so I understand in the experience of this liberal parson; for one day as he was going the round of this new walk of usefulness, he met with a female, whose honest bluntness of style would seem to sound rather uncourteous to a man of his cloth, (I suppose the sight of a parson, ransacking a pig sty, would seem somewhat unsightly). She saw him scrutinising the corners in the yard, and peremptorily told him to "Go home and write a sermon for Sunday, for she did not want him peeping into her back buildings." She could "lay" something to kill the rats. And as the death of my mother-in-law occasioned my visit to that place, I tarried to attend the funeral on Sunday, when this same priest officiated. It might have been a prejudice in me, but it really did appear that the services were performed in a spirit and air of lightness and indifference that I never before heard. And despite of the solemnities of the occasion, and the sacredness of the consecrated place, the idea of rats! rats! would involuntarily intrude upon the mind.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Church rates, for abolition of, 1. Oaths, for abolition of, 1.
Factories, for limiting hours of labour, 1. Poor Law Amendment bill, against, 1.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILLS PRESENTED, AND READ A FIRST TIME.

1. Slave Trade Suppression (Hayti) bill. 3. Slave Trade Abolition (Argentine Confederation) bill.
2. Slave Trade Treaties bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

1. Slave Trade Suppression (Hayti) bill. 3. Slave Trade Abolition (Argentine Confederation) bill.
2. Slave Trade Treaties bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

1. Slave Trade Abolition treaty. 2. Public Houses bill.

3. Ways and Means—Motion made and question proposed, "That towards raising the supply granted to her Majesty, the several duties on sugar and molasses now payable shall be further continued;" whereupon motion made and question put, "That towards raising the supply granted to her Majesty, the following duties shall be paid on the importation of sugar on and from the 5th day of July, 1842, for a time to be limited: that is to say, sugar, brown or Muscovado, or clayed sugar, not being refined, the cwt, 24s."—(Mr Roebuck.) The Committee divided; ayes 18, noes 59.

Original question again proposed; whereupon motion made and question proposed, "That, towards raising the supply granted to her Majesty, the following duties shall be paid on the importation of sugar, on and from the 5th day of July, 1842, for a time to be limited; that is to say, sugar, brown or Muscovado, or clayed sugar, not being refined, and not being the growth of any British possession, the cwt, 30s."—(Mr Labouchere.) The Committee divided; ayes 164, noes 245. Original question put and agreed to.

4. Tithes Commutation act. 5. Customs Duties bill.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, June 1.

SOUTHAMPTON ELECTION.

Mr FLEMING presented the petition of which he had given notice, from Southampton, complaining that a petition formerly presented, purporting to be from electors, was signed by certain persons, not being on the register of voters, "in contempt of the authority and privi-

leges of this House." It was read at length by the clerk, and a debate arose on the motion, that it be printed with the votes: but the motion was withdrawn.

Mr MACKINNON then moved that a new writ should be issued for Southampton; and grounded his motion on the fact of the issuing of the writ for Ipswich.

Mr W. O. STANLEY moved and Mr WARD seconded an amendment, that a committee should be appointed for inquiring into the extent of the corruption at Southampton.

Mr MACAULAY argued that the circumstances of this case were distinguishable from those of Ipswich, and stronger than even those connected with Nottingham. In order to put down the growing curse of bribery, both political parties must concur.

Sir R. PEEL was resolved to determine these judicial questions upon strictly judicial principles. He justified his own vote for the issue of the Ipswich writ, and would always vote on each case according to its own respective merits. The allegations against Southampton had made a strong impression upon his mind, and the writ, in his judgment, ought to be suspended until Lord JOHN RUSSELL should have had an opportunity of explaining his views upon the general remedy.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE was persuaded that a strong case could be proved against Southampton by Wren, who, in a petition to the House, had offered to give evidence of extensive bribery there.

Mr WYNN recommended that the amendment and the original motion should both be withdrawn, and the issue of the writ suspended for a fortnight. He would advise the same course as to the writ for Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Mr STANLEY then withdrew his amendment, and Mr MACKINNON his original motion.

The bill for the better regulation of public houses was the next question brought under consideration, and after some discussion, and a few slight amendments, it passed through committee.

Mr CHARLES BULLER then resumed the adjourned debate on the Bridport election compromise and bribery inquiry. The House having agreed on the main point, that an inquiry should take place, it only remained to settle by whom that inquiry should be conducted, which he considered should be referred to Mr Roebuck's committee. Very few members were in the house during the debate on this motion, which was strongly opposed by Mr G. BANKES, but on a division was carried by 44 to 16, and the House adjourned.

Friday, June 3.

WAYS AND MEANS.

The House having resolved itself into a committee of ways and means,

Mr GOULBURN rose to move the annual duties on sugar; and gave a detail of the reasons why government could not propose a reduction of the duties, a circumstance he much regretted; but he was satisfied it could not be done without an abandonment of revenue, which the present circumstances of the finance would not justify. He stated that the consumption of sugar in the last year had been larger than in any year preceding; and he anticipated such a supply, and at such a price, as would lead to an undiminished consumption in the next year.

Mr ROEBUCK moved an amendment, to the effect that the duty on foreign sugar should be reduced to an equality with the duty on colonial sugar. He argued that it was binding upon them to look to the question, as sugar was an article of primary importance to the poorer classes, and as the extensive use of it was conducive to general sobriety.

If he wanted proof of its importance, that proof was afforded by the fact that above 4,000,000 cwt. of sugar were consumed in the year ending January, 1841, by the people of this country, which 4,000,000 cwt. of sugar cost (exclusive of the duty) in round numbers something very like £7,000,000 or £8,000,000 sterling; and, that in addition to this amount spent in the price of the article, there had been derived from the duties upon the above quantity no less than £4,000,000 sterling of revenue. Now, looking at the enormous amount of capital expended on this article, and taking it at the lowest, it would be £10,000,000. He need say nothing more to show that it was of the utmost importance to the people of this country as a primary necessity. He took his facts from a return made to that House dated the 2nd of March, 1842, from which it appeared that in the year 1841 the consumption of sugar in this country was 4,678,331 cwt. A paper on the table, moved for by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, contained a list of the various prices of sugar from foreign countries as compared with the prices of sugar received from our colonial possessions. From that paper he found that the average price of colonial sugar last year was 49s. the cwt., whereas the price of foreign sugar—that produced in Brazil and Cuba—was 21s. Now, he would not take the difference at the apparent amount of 28s. the cwt., but allowing for losses and other deductions, he would take the difference as being £1 the cwt. on colonial sugar as compared with foreign. Thus, according to the statement he had just referred to, of the quantity of colonial sugar consumed in 1841, it would appear that the people of England had in that year paid £4,000,000 of money more for their sugar than they needed to have done.

He wanted to know what benefit the people of England derived from this enormous sacrifice? He supposed it would be replied, that it was for the suppression of the slave trade; but he contended that we had neither the power nor the right to suppress it, as against other independent nations.

He maintained that the English people had done with regard to the slave trade precisely what the continental government had objected to when done by the French propagandists. A certain number of public persons in this country having formed an opinion that the slave trade was pernicious—and he agreed with them that everything consistent with true policy ought to be done to put an end to it, for no man was more opposed to the slave trade than he was—they adopted certain means of carrying out their views, upon which views opinions of a different character were entertained by others. He himself, for one, held opinions with regard to that mode of carrying out those views on the slave trade which were similar to those held by the opponents of the French propagandists. He maintained that it was no part of the duty of a nation to propagate opinions as a nation. If they once let in this principle, there was no line to be drawn for its termination, there was no place at which they could stop. To day they spoke of putting an end to the slave trade. Who should say that to-morrow they might not propose to interfere with the United States, and endeavour to put down slavery itself? But the sea was not ours. It belonged to the nations of the earth; and when we assumed the power of being able to put down the slave trade, we were acting just as falsely as politicians as if we were to say to the American people themselves that we intended to put down slavery.

He believed the cry about the slave trade to have been a mere party device for the purpose of defeating the late government upon the sugar question. It was insisted by the present ministers that the sugars of the South American countries ought not to be admitted, till those countries should give us by treaty some securities against the slave trade; but the best security you could have would be in that change of public opinion throughout those countries which a more enlarged commercial intercourse would beget.

If we had in reality a constant intercourse with those people by means of an extensive trade, there was no doubt that we should possess a much more powerful influence over them than we otherwise could. Let us unite ourselves with them in trade, let us link them to us by the bonds of interest, and then we might expect them to pay attention to our counsels; but now we were only separating ourselves from them by

saying, "We will not give you a prospective benefit, because you will not enter into a treaty with us for putting down the slave trade."

If the cry against the admission of slave-grown sugar were sincere, why were not all other slave-grown articles, as rice and cotton, excluded?

Mr GODSON opposed the amendment, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then spoke briefly in opposition to it; but declined going at length into the subject, as he should have to enlarge upon the question when the motion of which Mr Labouchere had given notice came under discussion.

Mr CORDEN supported the amendment, and contended that the country did encourage slave-grown sugar by the circuitous operation of the exchanges, and the system of refining in bond. The English people now gave to the West Indian for his sugar double the quantity of cotton or iron which would obtain the same amount of sugar from the Brazilian, and this came from the sinews and bones of our working people. He was not going to contend that there was no advantage in having colonies; but he asked, was there any reason why monopolies should be kept up for the sake of those colonies?

Here we were paying for the governors and the educational establishments of the colonies—for colonial bishops, too—for colonial lighthouses—and not only for those things, but absolutely for the very militia uniform of the free natives, whilst we were keeping up a force of 1,500 soldiers in the very colony in which this charge was incurred. It might be all very well, then, to talk of precedent, and colonial interests, and such like; but commercial men looked at this matter in another point of view. Traders calculated how much all this cost—what they were called upon to pay for maintaining those colonies—and when they found that they were paying half as much again for the trade as they received by it, they very naturally asked themselves what was the use of such a system. On the part of those commercial men, he told the House that all these protective duties were bad—on their part he told them that the scheme throughout was founded on monopoly and selfishness, and he warned them that the system could not last, and that they would act wisely in not trying to maintain it too long.

After some further remarks the committee divided, when there appeared for the amendment, 18; against it, 59.

Mr LABOUCHERE then moved another amendment to the effect that there should be a differential duty of 30s. on foreign, and 20s. on colonial sugar. He looked with confidence to the gradual advance of the principles of free trade in this direction as in others; especially to all articles of consumption. He believed that, corn excepted, there was no article upon which a reduction of duty would produce so great a relief to the people at large as upon sugar. He admitted that it had been proper to leave the sugar duties undisturbed for a while, after the emancipation of the negroes.

That was the reason why, for a series of years, those who thought the duty on sugar should be reduced forbore to come forward with any proposition to that effect. It was not with a view of discouraging the slave trade that measures were not brought forward, but to allow breathing time to the colony after such an immense change had been effected. This was the sole, and, in his opinion, a sufficient reason against any alteration in the sugar duties during the course of nine or ten years following the change, and it was upon those grounds that he resisted a motion to that effect made by his hon. friend the member for Wigan, and at the same time that he resisted the motion he stated that he did so, not on the ground of the principle involved, but merely as a question of time.

He considered that the season was now arrived for relieving the people by making the required change. This view he supported by various details, comparing prices and quantities of stock at different periods; and declaring himself opposed to anything which would have a tendency to encourage slavery, he nevertheless was of opinion that treaties with slave-holding countries, for putting down the traffic, would have a far better chance of success, were we first to accord the boon of a reduction of duty, than to hold out the promise of a reduction as a bribe. He saw no reason to apprehend deficiency of revenue from such a reduction as he proposed; for the increase of consumption would more than make up the diminution of duty. Besides, there was now an income tax, which he believed would produce much more than had been estimated from it.

Mr GLADSTONE replied to the arguments of Mr Labouchere at some length, and produced a variety of calculations to prove that there were insuperable objections of a financial kind to the amendment proposed; and he contended further, that there was no imperative necessity for an immediate reduction in favour of the British consumer, either as to the amount or prices of the actual supply. He then entered upon the question of the slave trade, and brought forward statements of its actual state, which he contended justified the government in retaining the sugar duties as an incentive to other countries to enter into negotiations having for their object the suppression of the traffic, to effect which we had already sacrificed so much.

Much as he regretted any division of opinion on this great question, and firmly as he was convinced that the soundest commercial principles required the ultimate adoption of some proposition admitting a fair and beneficial competition between foreign and British sugar, he must, at the same time, keeping in view those higher considerations involved in the question—recollecting that the parliament, which had adopted the general policy of the late government, had, notwithstanding, and even in their hour of need, condemned them on their proposition referring to sugar—he must, looking with still greater satisfaction to the information now before the legislature, hope that the House would, by a yet larger and more decisive majority than had negatived a similar proposition last year, evince its determination not to pursue such a course as that now suggested, but to endeavour in approaching this question, to deal with it in such a manner as that the alterations made might be beneficial to the consumers in this country, and by the attainment of objects important for the interest of humanity at large.

Mr HUME would not believe the government sincere in their desire to put down slavery until they excluded cotton, tobacco, and other slave-grown produce, from the market. He affirmed that for the last five years the people of England had paid 3d. on every pound of sugar they purchased solely for the purpose of enabling one of the black population of the West Indies to earn as much in seven hours as an English peasant could in three days. To keep up this enormous duty was an evil second only to keeping up the corn law.

Mr P. M. STEWART considered the amendment as going too far.

Lord J. RUSSELL taunted the government with professing a desire to see the price of articles of subsistence cheapened, whilst somehow or other they could see no way of accomplishing their wishes.

With respect to the most important article of all, bread, it was found that we could make no reduction in that, for it was held to be indispensable that we should, as regarded bread, keep ourselves independent of foreign aid, and much as they might wish to relieve the people as to the cost of that most important article, they found it impossible to do so. He now came to articles which formed principally the weekly bills of the labouring man and the artisan. He alluded to cheese and butter. But it was found that no alteration can be made in these, consistent with the principles developed by the government. He now came to another great article of general consumption, viz., cattle and meat. In both of these it was found that a reduction of duty can be effected. But with respect to cattle, although a reduction of duty was proposed in the tariff of the government, it had been admitted by the right hon. baronet at the head of the government, that the people are not to expect any very material alteration in the price of meat to them; in respect to cattle the reduction of the duty would be of no service to those who had a right to expect a diminution in the

price of articles of general consumption. He now came to an article which was of more importance than any that he had as yet mentioned. It was important, inasmuch as it was connected intimately with the improved habits of the people. But this article was not to be included in the list of these, the duty on which the government proposed to reduce.

The question on the whole of these measures of commerce and finance ought to be, in what quarters they could sacrifice revenue with most advantage to the public? and he contended that there was no article on which the sacrifice could be more usefully made than on sugar. He adverted to the great increase of the number of coffee shops, and to the advantage of encouraging them in preference to public houses. As to the slave-trade argument, he could have understood it well enough if it had been applied to all slave grown articles, but in the very tariff now pending there was a great reduction upon coffee, an article produced by slave labour. So upon copper from slave-wrought mines; but surely the admission of sugar would have been a greater relief to the people than the admission of copper. The recent decrease in the slave trade had been owing to the exertions of our cruisers and of our negotiators; and these exertions would not be diminished by the admission of foreign sugar. What would the people feel, when they found that they were to bear an income tax, but not to receive that relief for the sake of which that tax had been accepted?

Mr ROEBUCK accused Lord J. Russell of duplicity in thus assuming to be the friend of the people, whilst he adhered to the system of discriminating duties in favour of the West Indians.

Foreign sugar, the noble lord said, was at 24s., colonial at 39s., and on the plan of duties which he proposed there would be a difference between the price of foreign and colonial sugar in the English market of just 8s. Now, he wanted to know what was the meaning of this? Was it intended as a protection to the colonial interest? It could only be that by keeping out foreign sugar: if it let in foreign sugar, it could be no protection to the colonists. His proposition was to put 24s. duty on both, so with colonial sugar at 24s., and foreign at 39s., the price here would be for the first 48s., for the second 63s., and the difference, therefore, on his plan would be 15s., while the difference, according to the plan of the noble lord, and the right hon. gentleman, would be 8s. Surely then it was a fallacy to say that this proposition of the noble lord was to give the people of England cheap sugar and the colonists protection at the same time.

And these were the men who pretended to be the foes of protections. The ministerial party, on the other hand, acted fairly enough in resisting him; for they avowed that protection was their object. Mr Labouchere's proposal endangered the revenue, but that which had just now been made by himself involved no such danger; for it did not go to lower the duty; it only rendered the impost equal on colonial and foreign sugar. For his own part, he was not disposed to vote one farthing for the advantage of the colonies at the expense of the working people of this country.

Mr BERNAL contended that the colonies had a right to the protective duties they now claimed, because of the sudden emancipation of the negroes and the consequent destruction of their fund of labour.

Sir R. PEEL reminded the House that this was an annual vote, and that they would have an opportunity of reconsidering the subject next year. He combated what he called Mr Roebuck's anti-colonial doctrine, and claimed the support of the House on account of the commercial reforms he was making. If government were to make reductions on every duty on which they thought it would be beneficial so to do, they would find themselves in a deficiency, notwithstanding the income tax, of £2,000,000. But his own main ground for resisting this motion was the same which he had taken last year—that it would not be for the honour of England to let in slave sugar without an attempt to obtain some equivalent securities for the negro. A little further interval should be given. A feeling was growing up among the great slave-holding states, Brazil and Cuba included, that slavery was dangerous in itself, and verged towards its dissolution. The proper course to be taken was that which had been adopted in the negotiation with Texas, in which the right of search had been insisted on as a condition of our compact. So, when the commercial treaty with France was on foot, England did not concede everything, and then take her chance of subsequent concessions from France; but the concessions were made by way of stipulation and simultaneously. It was asked why they did not exclude all other slave-grown produce. The answer was, that the production of sugar demanded a severity of labour, which was not required in the production of any of the other articles of tropical commerce.

After a few words from Colonel SIBTHORP, the committee divided, when there appeared for the amendment 164; against it, 245; majority for ministers, 81. The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

Monday, June 6.

BELFAST AND NEWCASTLE.

Mr O'CONNELL presented a petition from a Belfast elector, containing some curious allegations, chiefly implicating Mr Emerson Tennent. The petition was ordered to be printed with the votes, and the issue of the writ was suspended until the disposal, on Thursday next, of a motion for a committee of inquiry.

Mr ADDERLEY moved for a new writ for the borough of Newcastle-under-Lyne, which was seconded by Mr MACKINNON.

Mr HUME moved, as an amendment, that the issue of the writ should be suspended for fourteen days, pending a committee of inquiry.

Mr O'CONNELL seconded the amendment, and brought forward extracts from the evidence of a committee of 1838, as well as from the report of the committee which recently unseated the sitting member, in proof of the bribery, corruption, drunkenness, and perjury, usually practised at the Newcastle-under-Lyne elections.

Mr LIDDELL, Sir W. FOLLETT, and Sir R. PEEL opposed the amendment, which was supported by Mr C. BULLER, Mr BERNAL, Mr WYNN, and Lord J. RUSSELL. The House then divided, and there appeared, for the issuing of the writ, 143; against it, 97.

BRIbery AT ELECTIONS.

Lord J. RUSSELL then moved for leave to bring in a bill, having for its object the "better discovery of bribery at elections." His object was rather to deter from bribery, by rendering the means of its detection more efficacious, than to check it by increased penalties. This he proposed to effect by permitting parties to give in lists of voters whom they affirmed to have been bribed at any election; and these voters should be liable to disfranchisement unless they could defend their votes. A power of granting indemnity in certain cases should be given, and the election committee to whom this power would be en-

trusted, should also be enabled to follow up inquiries, where they believed corrupt compromises had taken place in order to conceal bribery; the committee to have legal aid in conducting the protracted investigation. On the presentation of a petition alleging extensive bribery, he proposed that it should be tried in the same manner as an election petition, the expenses to fall on sitting members or petitioners, as the case might be; and if extensive bribery were proved against a borough, it should be disfranchised. To obviate the difficulty of carrying disfranchisement bills through parliament, the inquiry into bribery alleged against any constituency to be conducted by a committee composed of members of both houses, in the proportions of four or five from the Commons, and three or four from the Lords, to be presided over by a peer to be named by the Crown. The bribery oath now administered at elections to be abolished. Lastly, the payment of any sum of money to electors or their families, either before or after an election, to be deemed to be bribery. He did not anticipate that legislation alone would cure the existing evils, but he hoped the law would be aided by the growing moral and religious feeling of the country.

Sir ROBERT PEEL gave his cordial support to the motion, considering the proposed bill an improvement on the one of 1834. He was even willing to agree to a retrospective clause, which would be applicable to the ensuing election for Newcastle. But it was more difficult to deal with "treating" than with direct bribery. That "treating" had the effect of bribery there could be no doubt; but the difficulty was to discriminate between corrupt "treating" and innocent hospitality. The law respecting the practice of conveying electors to the poll was also in an unsatisfactory state. Electors who had to travel twenty or thirty miles could hardly be expected to evince an extraordinary patriotism, if they had to do so at their own expense. At the same time, the number of vehicles at a contested election was certainly a matter for consideration. On the whole, he was inclined to anticipate much improvement from a law which would endeavour to remedy existing evils, such a law as the present bill; for even the very discussions which had arisen out of all these cases of bribery and compromises had been productive of much good.

After some remarks from Mr HUME, Mr ROEBUCK, and Lord SANDON, leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE TARIFF.

The House then resolved itself into a committee on the Customs' acts, and Mr ROEBUCK moved that the duties on foreign and colonial timber should be rendered equal. He had passed much of his life in the Canadas; and he could state that the timber trade of those colonies was a trade of no consequence to the community at large. The Canadian timber dealers were a rude and not a numerous race, and they alone derived any benefit from that trade, which indeed was rather injurious to the rest of the population; for it was a gambling sort of commerce, the greater part of each year's timber being brought down the rivers and lost. As to the argument about fostering our navy by long voyages, if it were good for anything, it would prescribe that our timber should not only be brought from Canada, but call at Cape Horn. Considering these things, and that the country must lose revenue by giving an advantage to the dealer over the cheaper supply, he should press the equalisation of the duties, at 20s. upon all kinds of timber.

Sir HOWARD DOUGLAS repudiated the principles of free trade, and contended that the tariff was based on protective principles, adapted to the actual circumstances of each case. He proposed an amendment, "that the duties, on and after the 10th day of October next, should be fixed at 30s. on foreign timber, and 38s. on foreign deals, both per load; and that no ulterior reduction, as contemplated, should take place in either."

Mr PATRICK M. STEWART proposed another amendment, that the duty on colonial timber be reduced to 5s. per load, and the duty on foreign timber to 35s.; and that the admeasurement of deals, for the purpose of charging duty, be taken in conformity with the recommendation of the committee of 1835.

Mr GLADSTONE defended the government proposition, on the ground of the benefit which would accrue to trade and commerce, whilst no injury would result to colonial interests.

Mr HUME thought that the best of the plans before the House was that of the government. He expatiated upon the benefit of free trade in all things.

Mr BARING was not prepared at once to abandon all differential duties. But though the difference now recommended was a less protection than he had himself proposed when in office, he would not object to it on that account. He did think, indeed, that when ministers were making a sacrifice of revenue to the amount of £600,000 a year, it was not wise in them to throw the whole of that relief on the one article of timber; but that feeling would not induce him to vote for any of the plans which were brought forward in opposition to that of the government.

The committee then divided, when there appeared for Mr Roebuck's motion, 16; against it, 243; majority, 227.

Sir H. DOUGLAS then brought on his amendment for imposing a duty of 30s. upon each load of foreign timber, and 38s. on foreign deals, without any view, as proposed, of a further ultimate reduction of duty. Sir R. PEEL opposed the amendment, and expressed his conviction that the system of taxation as proposed in the tariff was the best that could be adopted. Mr LABOUCHERE also opposed the amendment, and after a few words from Lord SANDON and one or two other members, it was withdrawn.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday evening the Earl of RIXON moved the first reading of the Income Tax bill, and it was ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Lord KINNAIRD then moved for a select committee to inquire into the causes of the existing distress prevailing in the nation. He contended that no one could pretend to deny that distress prevailed to an alarming extent; or that there was great danger in the present condition of the working classes in the manufacturing districts, whose distress was far beyond the reach of the poor laws. Population was increasing, while the means of that population was rapidly decreasing.

He strongly disapproved of the Queen's letter, on the ground of its being exclusively addressed to the clergy of the established church, thus apparently excluding the clergy of all denominations from association in the work of charity; and also censured the application of public money, in anticipation of subscriptions, as if it were intended to conceal the appalling magnitude of the distress.

One fact alone, if indeed he sought any, would be sufficient to convince him that her Majesty's government were fully aware of the extent of the distress, and he had called the attention of their lordships to it the other evening. It was this;—it was the unconstitutional use made of the public money to choke and suppress any notice of the extent and nature of that distress. He would state it broadly, and it could be clearly proved, that money had been issued from the public treasury—from what particular fund he knew not—to suppress any statements of the extent of the distress. He said this because he could prove it. Another fact was this—that the military officers had got orders to have their troops prepared as for active service. It might, no doubt, be right to guard against danger. The fact he had mentioned was well known in the country, and in particular in the districts where distress prevailed, there was no doubt that some of those districts were in a dangerous state.

He entered into an account of the condition of various districts, and produced various statistical details, exhibiting the action of the distress, in abstracting capital from trade, deteriorating the condition of the working classes, creating disease, and increasing crime, and asked what could any charitable subscription do to materially alleviate this slowly increased and increasing amount of public destitution? He should, on another occasion, have some questions to ask respecting the condition of Paisley, where the local committee, who had distributed £25,000 in relieving the distress, had been superseded by a government establishment of a commissary and clerks, respecting whose proceeding the public required to be informed. After commenting on the measures of the income tax and the tariff, the latter of which he censured as being framed on no defined and coherent principle, he concluded with asking for a committee to inquire into the causes of the general distress.

The Duke of WELLINGTON defended the propriety of appealing to the beneficence of the public for the means of alleviating distress in those places in which it pressed with extraordinary severity, and particularly in the case of Scotland, where from the state of the poor law such assistance was peculiarly necessary. It was evident that the noble lord wished for a committee solely that he might again bring under discussion the question of the corn laws, which had been so recently decided, and he would, therefore, oppose the motion. He believed that the income tax would have the effect of establishing more firmly the public credit, and of enabling government, by repealing the duties upon the raw material of manufacture, to advance the interests of commerce; and he expected, also, from the alterations in the tariff, considerable relief, both to the manufacturer and the consumer. Since the commencement of the session, government had been actively engaged in negotiating commercial treaties with several nations, and from these, and from the general establishment of peace, he anticipated the most favourable results. The appointment of a committee such as that now proposed would give rise to much excitement without answering any useful object, and he trusted therefore that it would be refused.

The Earl of RADNOR supported the motion, and contended that the noble duke had misrepresented the arguments of Lord Kinnaird. He had not stated his object to be a repeal of the corn law. That corn law he believed to be a main cause of the existing distress; nor had the recent alteration of the law been as yet of the slightest influence in alleviating the condition of the people.

The Duke of RICHMOND was satisfied that the line of argument adopted by Lord Kinnaird pointed to a repeal of the corn law. He felt as much as any of their lordships for the distresses of the people, but such a committee of inquiry as this would rather aggravate than relieve that distress. The conduct of the government in advancing money to relieve the distressed districts was not only justified by former examples, but would be approved by the country.

The Marquess of CLANRICARDE was sorry the motion should have been resisted on the plea of a maintenance of the corn law; but he recommended Lord Kinnaird to withdraw his motion, as the proposed committee would lead into an inquiry too serious and extensive to be gone into with any hope, at present, of a practical result.

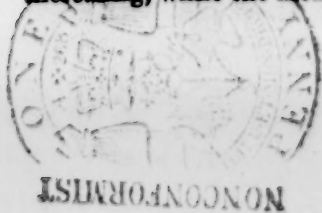
After some remarks from Lord WESTERN and Lord MONTEAGLE, and an explanation from the Duke of WELLINGTON, the motion was withdrawn, and the House adjourned.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, June 8.

In the house of Commons last night, Lord ASHLEY moved for leave to bring in a bill to make regulations respecting the age and sex of persons admitted to work in the mines and collieries. He entered into some of the details with which the public have been shocked, relating to the ages and sexes of the persons employed, the nature of the occupations, the ventilation and drainage of the mines, the revolting indecency, as well as the cruelties practised. He said the commissioners, instead of exaggerating, had not even told all the amount of the evils connected with this horrible state of things, for which a remedy was demanded on every ground of humanity and religion. He should propose that all females should be excluded from employment in mines. He would also exclude from mines all boys under thirteen years of age. This he felt to be his weak point; but as, in factories, boys under a similar age were not permitted to work full time, and as mines could not be subjected to a system of inspectorship, he had no alternative but to exclude them altogether under the prescribed age. He also proposed that no person should be employed as engineers of mines, or put in charge of the engine-house, but males above twenty-one years of age. Lastly, he proposed to regulate the system of apprenticeship, under which, at present, a large portion of the juvenile population in mining districts are reduced to a state of grinding slavery, worse than had ever existed in the West Indies. Not only would he propose the abolition of the system of apprenticeship, but he would even cancel all existing apprenticeships. Mr FOX MAULE seconded the motion, and leave was given.

The committee on the tariff was then resumed, beginning with leather. Mr G. PALMER moved that £1, in lieu of 12s., the dozen pair should be the duty. This was lost by a majority of 148 to 36. The article of cotton was then proceeded with; but the business was interrupted by a most extraordinary scene of personal altercation, carried on principally by Mr FERRAND, who was vociferously cheered by va-



rious members who, with himself, were apparently in a state of excitement from drinking freely. Dr Bowring was the object of his first attack, being accused by Mr Ferrand of gross partiality in the collection of his evidence abroad. Lord STANLEY and Mr BARING interfered, but failed to induce the hon. member to retract or apologise. Mr C. BULLER attributed the outbreak to the absence of Sir R. Peel, who alone could keep his supporters in decent order. The scene was continued till half-past one, when, by dint of repeated motions, the more rational part of the members effected an adjournment.

BRAINTREE CHURCH RATE CASE.—At the sitting of the Consistory Court this morning, the Registrar informed the Judge, that he had been served with an inhibition in this cause—in other words the plaintiffs intend to take the opinion of a superior court.

THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION.

Yesterday morning the committee for general purposes met at their rooms in Waterloo street. In the evening there was an open meeting of the council at the public office. Joseph Sturge, Esq., president, occupied the chair at both meetings. The following is a summary of the proceedings.

At the morning meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the SECRETARY read the following letter from S. Crawford, Esq., M.P., in reference to the late motion in the House of Commons.

"MY DEAR FRIEND—The paper of this morning will bring you the result of my motion; you will observe the House was thin, and our minority very poor—it would have been somewhat larger had it not been for the early division. The House was so excessively noisy and clamorous for the division, no one wished to speak. It was nearly impossible for any one to be heard; while I was speaking the noise was so great that I wonder I was reported even to the extent I was. I am much curtailed in both papers. I see the *Chronicle* gives your protest at length, but in other respects the *Times* gives a much better report of my speech. You will be sensible that nothing more can be done this session; a greater impulse out of doors must first be obtained before our power in the House of Commons can be increased in any great degree. One effect, however, will be produced by these motions—they will exhibit the total indifference of the great body of the House of Commons to the redress of the grievances of the people. The Poor law seems at present indefinitely postponed; it must come on, but when is very uncertain.

"Yours ever,
(Copy) "WM SHARMAN CRAWFORD."

A letter was read from Ipswich, stating that both T. Gisborne and G. Moffatt, Esqs., had declared they would support the fundamental principle of the Complete Suffrage association if returned to parliament. A letter from Reading, saying that William Tooke, one of the late liberal candidates for that borough, affirmed the right of every man of 21 years of age to a vote. A letter from Sudbury, saying that a petition from 74 electors (including 1 magistrate and 3 dissenting ministers) and 78 non-electors, in favour of an extension of the suffrage to every adult male, if unconvicted of crime, and not in the recent receipt of parochial relief, had been presented to the House of Commons. Letters of importance were also read from Jno. Dunlop, Esq., Mr J. H. Parry, and other members of the Union.

The SECRETARY reported that the circular, No. 11, had been issued to correspondents, and to the liberal newspaper press, and then read a letter from the editor of the *Sheffield Independent*, stating that he proposed to reprint the reports of the proceedings from the *Nonconformist*. The Secretary also reported that Provincial and London papers were frequently arriving at the office containing reports and articles on the subject of the movement.

The CHAIRMAN having called attention to a notice in the *Morning Advertiser* of the 31st ult., of the circular dated the 20th ult., in which the conduct of the daily London press was animadverted on. It was resolved—

"That this council do with pleasure recognise the claim of the *Morning Advertiser* to be excepted from the censure which this council has pronounced upon nearly the whole of the metropolitan daily papers, and congratulates the Union on its possession of so important an ally, and cordially recommends it to the patronage of the friends of our peaceful and constitutional movement."

It was then resolved that the following clause be added to the instructions to lecturers—

"That you do not on any occasion in your official capacity invite any person to become a member of any other political society than this Union, and that you do not interfere with any other society although its principles and operations may be entirely in accordance with our own."

A letter having been read announcing that the Leeds Reform association were likely to join the Union, it was resolved—

"That the secretary write to our correspondent at Leeds, and offer any assistance which the council can give in furtherance of the proposed plan."

The committee appointed to communicate with Mr O'Connell, reported, and were requested to prepare a circular founded thereon, for adoption by the council that evening. The meeting then separated.

At the meeting held last night, the secretary reported that he had received a great number of sealed votes, in connection with Mr O'Connell's election, as a member of the council. Mr Collins and Mr Rollason were appointed scrutineers, and they retired into an anti-room to examine the votes. On their return they announced that Mr O'Connell had been unanimously elected with the exception of one vote.

Mr STEELE:—I can venture to assure you that Mr O'Connell will hear from me, with extreme gratification, that he is one of the council of the Union, for his heart and soul are in this new movement [applause]. I know that it is his intention this week, to publish an address to the electors and people of Nottingham, on the subject of the coming election. He would not think it consistent with delicacy or propriety to interfere on another occasion, but would leave the people of that town to themselves—but the election of Joseph Sturge, the president of the Conference, is a matter of great interest—he is the representative of the principle of purity of election through the empire [applause]. O'Connell has been ever eager for the peaceful regeneration of England as well as of Ireland. In the year 1829, soon after the Clare election, at a great meeting at the Crown and Anchor, in Westminster, he gave friendly reproach, and precept, and example, and prediction of triumph to the people of England, if they followed his counsel. He asked them why did they not combine peaceably and constitutionally, as the people of Ireland had done in the catholic association, and he predicted that if they did, they would force a reform from their oppressors. They did combine as he exhorted—they formed the political unions; and it is a matter clear as the light of heaven, that it was by the political unions of England and Scotland, that the

Reform bill was carried; and we are now in a progression of still greater reform [hear, hear].

The Secretary then read the minutes of their proceedings since the last monthly meeting, which appeared weekly in this paper. He also read the following extract from a letter from the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Dublin:—

London, 4th June, 1842.

I am sincerely sorry that it is not in my power to attend the council on Tuesday. I would wish to turn their attention to the formation of a committee to obtain information on the working of bribery in each borough in this kingdom. Every borough we may be able to expose will give an additional stimulant to public opinion—and to expose that "nest of bribers" who now seek to rule this realm is most desirable. It is, of course, now perfectly known in each town, or at least sufficiently distinctly for public purposes, what the course of bribery was at the last election. A little activity would easily discover secrets which are known to many—that is, secrets which are never kept. The most useful act of the "old reformers" from 1780 to 1792, was to place an analysis of the different boroughs before the British people. Let us imitate that utility by compiling a statement of each locality in which bribery at elections is prevalent; with proper exertion we will discover the substance of the facts in each case. Let us above all become a working association. Let us work at this or some other useful measure. Quiescence is a crime amongst political agitators.

I have the honour to be, your faithful servant,

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

W. Morgan, Esq.

The PRESIDENT congratulated the members of the association upon the encouraging indications of a rapid advance in public opinion in favour of the great object for which they were associated, that of securing a full, fair, and free representation of the people. This could not altogether be concealed by the public press, though with one exception (that of the *Morning Advertiser*), all the daily papers in London reluctantly admitted any information of their proceedings. At the late election at Ipswich all the liberal candidates had pledged themselves in favour of complete suffrage before the polling commenced; and had there not been the usual resort to bribery and intimidation on the part of the Tories, there is scarcely a doubt they would have been returned. The announcements from different parts of the country were all favourable to a general and cordial union between the middle and working classes; and when this was completely effected the triumph of our cause could not long be delayed. It was but yesterday that a letter was received from Leeds, stating that a public meeting was about to be held there, for the purpose of changing the Leeds Reform association into a Complete Suffrage association, and that one of the largest and most wealthy manufacturers in the kingdom, or indeed in the world, was prepared to join in the movement, proving that he at least was not afraid that trusting the people with the franchise would lead to the destruction of property. With regard to the election at Nottingham, when it was, perhaps, known to all present that he had been brought forward as the representative of complete suffrage and the advocate of purity of election, he believed he might safely say that their opponents had no chance, unless they resorted to the most extensive bribery, and even if they did, Henry Vincent, who left Nottingham this morning, would probably tell them that many who had once sold their votes were not now to be bought. The Chairman then called upon the secretary to read the report of the proceedings of the executive committee.

Mr VINCENT then rose, and was received with loud and continued applause, after which he proposed the following resolution in a very powerful speech, which, owing to the lateness of the hour, could not be reported:—

"That the committee for general business be requested to take steps for immediately collecting facts as to the nature and extent of bribery, corruption, and intimidation, in the different constituencies of the United Kingdom, and that the members of the Union resident at a distance, be especially invited to aid this inquiry."

Mr JNO. COLLINS seconded the resolution which was carried unanimously; after which

Mr COLLINS moved a vote of thanks to S. Crawford, Esq., M.P., and the twenty-one members who voted with him in his late motion in the House of Commons.

Mr STEELE said, that as he had seconded his friend Mr Collins on the occasion he alluded to, he now requested to have the honour of seconding the vote of thanks to the members who had supported the amendment. We knew perfectly well that we would have been defeated, but we were determined to give proof that our spirit was not to be subdued. Mr Steele then read some ironical and sarcastic extracts of the address of the Patriotic society of Hamburg to the senate, which amidst laughter he jocularly applied to the English legislature.

A vote of thanks having been given to the Chairman, the meeting dissolved.

The City of London members of the National association, held their usual meeting last night at the Globe, Shoe Lane, Mr Bearfield in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Mr Lovett read a letter from Mr Morgan, the secretary to the council of the Complete Suffrage Union, calling on the friends of complete suffrage to give all the support in their power to the *Nonconformist* newspaper, and requesting them to appoint a person to send reports of their meetings to that paper. It was then moved by Mr Neesom, and seconded by Mr H. Mitchell—

"That the members of the association do promote the circulation of the *Nonconformist* newspaper by every means in their power; and request Mr W. A. Main to send an account of the meetings to that paper; and at the same time record their warmest thanks to the *British Statesman*, *Morning Advertiser*, and such other papers as have advanced the suffrage movement."

The motion was unanimously adopted. On the motion of Messrs LORD and MAIN, it was unanimously agreed—

"That the committee of the association and the directors of the hall be requested to make arrangements respecting the best mode of opening the hall, and to report on the next meeting night."

Mr C. H. NEESOM then brought forward the question for discussion, which he had given notice of on the previous meeting—viz., "Which is the best means of bringing about a union between the middle and working classes." He advised the formation of local associations, on the plan of complete suffrage. He did not wish to give up the name of chartist, yet he thought there were many who would take part in the movement under the name of complete suffrage, rather than chartism. After a few words from Dr Lotzsky, the question was adjourned till next meeting.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply of both English and foreign corn is large, but business is flat. In some transactions Monday's prices have been obtained.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. S." We should have no objection to the insertion of his letter, but for his personal reference to the editor of this paper.

"James Humphrys" received.

"An inhabitant of the neighbourhood referred to, and of the city, but no friend to bigotry and intolerance." The fact he brings under our notice, has already been stated in the *Nonconformist*.

"A Cipher," will find his letter partly answered in the present number. The specific question mooted by him will be dealt with hereafter.

We have received several copies of addresses, forwarded by Complete Suffrage associations to the electors of Nottingham. Excellent, as they are, it would be impossible for us to devote the space necessary for their insertion.

Thanks to our Greenwich correspondent. The extracts he has forwarded shall be copied for future use, and the manuscript returned.

"A Liverpool Subscriber." We shall answer his query next week.

"James Harvey" declined.

Mr Spencer's letter is in type; but we are compelled to defer it until next week.

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For 8 lines 5s. 0d.	For 16 lines... 7 0	For 24 lines... 9 0
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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1842.

SUMMARY.

THE tariff and bribery—bribery and the tariff—of "rabbits young and rabbits old"—we need not finish the rest. The House of Commons takes these two subjects, night by night, in alternate layers; sometimes the one being at the top, sometimes the other. Its proceedings in reference to bribery, have been somewhat like the flight of a snipe—men never know where to have them. In the case of Sudbury, corrupt practices are reported and a bill for disfranchisement brought in. Then comes Ipswich, convicted of the same infamy, and a new writ issued for the election of members. Nottingham follows, accused but neither convicted nor reported, and the writ is suspended *sine die*. After Nottingham, Southampton figures on the stage. The writ for a re-election was just about to issue when a tory electioneering agent turns evidence against his employers, and promises the House and the public some *piquant* disclosures. In this case the issue of the writ is postponed for a fortnight.

"Last scene of all

In this most strange, eventful history,"

is Newcastle-under-Lyne, which, having been caught in the act, tried, convicted, and reported, obtains with ease what Nottingham and Southampton sigh for in vain. We have said nothing, it is true, of Belfast, the late election for which has been declared void, and a corrupt compromise in respect of which has been exposed by petition to the House, subscribed by Mr Cropper, who confesses, with shame and penitence, the receipt of £20 for his vote. These eccentric movements of the people's representatives are working more benefit to the people than they either imagine or intend; and are making converts to the cause of complete suffrage more rapidly than all the arguments of all its advocates put together.

Before we quit this topic of bribery, it will be necessary for us, very briefly, to advert to Lord John Russell's bill for the Discovery of Bribery, which on Monday evening the House of Commons gave him leave to bring in. It has been said of the ex-colonial secretary, that he is equally ready to undertake anything at a moment's notice. We remember well when his lordship, smarting under recent defeat in Devonshire, declared that a few more instances of corruption and intimidation, such as he had then witnessed, might lead him to the consideration of the propriety of protecting electors by the adoption of the ballot. His lordship then deemed the *prevention* of bribery an object of some importance; now that our constituencies are so tainted that the whole mass may be said to be in a state of putridity, he gravely proposes a stringent measure for the *discovery* of bribery. We say stringent, for so it is on paper. But need Lord John Russell be told, that when the *bribers* are constituted judges for the trial and the punishment of the *bribed*, clauses of statute law, however severe, answer but one purpose; not the detection of guilt, but the screening of the system under which that guilt is perpetrated. The erection of the tribunal and the form of trial serve, not to reach the end of justice, but rather to impress the minds of bystanders that justice is inexorable. Behind the mask of this new bill, the provisions of which we shall not detain our readers to explain, what new pranks of corruption will be played it is impossible to conjecture. We can easily see how the aristocracy of our country would gladly curtail the expense of electioneering, as at present carried on; but to kill bribery in principle, to render it impossible because inoperative, is plainly what they do not mean, and what Lord John Russell has not brought in his bill by any means to compass. Dust, dust, mere dust, thrown in the eyes of a befooled people.

We have had two debates on the tariff—the one on the sugar, the other on the timber duties. The first was characterised by the usual quantum of hypocrisy on the part of the erst opponents of slavery abolition. The government proposition, however, in both cases was carried as usual by large majorities. We refer to the discussions which are not without interest.

In the House of Lords a motion for inquiry into the distress of the people was made by Lord Kinnaird, respecting which we shall do nothing more than quote the pertinent remarks of the *Spectator*.

"Each declaration like that by Lord Kinnaird, each movement towards an advance, brings us nearer to the actual step forward, when the impulse will be too strong for resistance—possibly, if too long delayed, too strong for guidance. The accounts from the country bear out his general representations: Stockport, a short time since the most flourishing of the towns about Manchester, exhibits signs of positive decay, such as in its extreme aspect astonishes and humiliates the traveler in degenerate countries; Dudley, under the exasperation of deficient employment, is tranquillised by the presence of well-armed troops; and Burnley is pauper—the Union, unable to support its poor, has thrown itself upon the nation, and ministers have had neither the heart nor the hardihood to repulse it. The poor of Paisley were already pensioners on the national resources, having exhausted those of the locality. The spring is past, and the spring trade has brought no real revival. What Lord Kinnaird now urges should have been done, and act should have followed the inquiry, years ago: the stable should have been locked before the steed was stolen. The present condition of the country has not been unforeseen; it was described by anticipation when the whig statesmen were young in office: they had the power to avert it; but they were absorbed in the care, not how the next flood of national distress was to be warded off, but how to keep out the tories. The people were forgotten in party: woe to the party that shall still dare to forget the people in the crisis of their endurance!"

The election for Ipswich has come off in favour of the tory candidates. Before polling, Mr Gisborne and Mr Moffat signed a distinct pledge, in writing, that they would go to the full extent of the suffrage, as avowed by Mr Sturge, and that they would do their best to forward those views in parliament. The election has had this happy effect. The middle class now see more plainly than ever, that it is only by a great extension of the suffrage and protection to electors that any hope of good to themselves or to the working people can be looked for; and we understand they are now anxious to organise an association in that borough, based upon the principles of the "National Complete Suffrage Union."

To the news from the East, and to the present position of affairs at Nottingham, we refer our readers to our articles upon those respective topics.

MINOR PLANS OF REFORM.

THEORIES of political change are the various articulated expressions of a nation's sense of want—the words in which it clothes, and by which it renders definite and intelligible, those cravings of its heart which it can no longer suppress. At times they are put forth in numbers and variety more distracting than useful. Minds of very small calibre are apt to take advantage of this. They are sure to make a lively sally against reformers for their division of opinion. It affords a pleasing and tempting opportunity to unfledged witlings to have a peck at the people, at little hazard. "Gentlemen, before you demand change, be pleased to agree among yourselves." O! the inward chuckle with which this taunt is uttered—the palpitating glee with which men who have delivered themselves of it, contemplate the bouncing babe of their fancy! They can never have done hugging it. They hand it from one to another that it may have a kiss all round, and a large number of virgin politicians evidently wish they had each one been the happy parent of it. It is truly wonderful how the thing takes. Experienced statesmen sometimes pat it on its tiny head, and all the party who serve them, forthwith fall incontinently to nursing it.

Now we really do not see the force of the taunt, at least when wielded by the enemies of the people. A multiplicity of plans for reform indicates nothing so clearly, as far as we are able to discover, as the strong feeling prevailing as to the necessity of reform. It proves that desire is all in one direction, even if opinion is helter skelter; and desire is stronger than opinion, and will soon master it. Who has not seen a number of pigs upon a green, baffle for an hour or two the efforts of a swine-herd to drive them in one direction? Yet, eventually, every one knows he will do it, for after all they are but pigs, and he is man even though he may be somewhat of the dullest. So schemes for reformation, each with its special party, may be very numerous, very obstinate, very perplexing—but a strong sense of want will ultimately make them all harmonise. It is a great thing that there *are* pigs to be driven together—and the number of the animals, as well as their scampering in all directions, proves that a man is behind them somewhere, no matter whether we see him or not.

There is a host of models after which it is proposed to fashion our constitution, which, inasmuch as they number but few adherents, we call minor plans of reform. We cannot stay to specify them. The mention of one or two only will suffice to designate the class. Such, then, is "household suffrage, vote by ballot, and triennial parliaments"—and such is the plan lately propounded with great ability by the *Scotsman*, which gives to the working classes a fixed number of members specially to act as their representatives, and allows them only a choice of electors, those electors being entrusted with the parliamentary franchise. In the various schemes of this order we do not say there is no merit. We think just the reverse. All of them contain some useful suggestions. All may be studied with advantage. All of them may number among their adherents some shrewd-minded, honest, and, in the best sense of the word, respectable men. But we do think the time is now gone by for standing by these plans—for if they could not at their first appearance be called crotchets, they have now become such. A dwarf is not a dwarf at birth. A crotchet is scarcely a crotchet at its first conception—it is only when persisted in at all hazards that it becomes so. We trust, therefore, we shall not be considered to act a disrespectful part towards these schemes, if we deal with the whole remaining batch of them in a single article. Dissimilar as they may be in

their specific features, they are all within the range of the same general objections—objections which we cannot but think damnable of any plan of parliamentary reform.

1. The political theories to which we have adverted proceed, one and all, upon a fundamentally erroneous principle. They assume, not indeed that our present limited constituencies possess the *power*—that, unhappily, is the fact—but that they have the *right*, to deal out political privilege, according to their own self-constituted standard of expediency. They erect the body of ten pound householders into a tribunal whose *fiat* shall determine, and their own imagined convenience into a law according to which judgment is to be given, who shall have the franchise, and who shall be denied it—upon what conditions it shall be extended, and under what circumstances withheld. They aim to make the foot fit the shoe, instead of the shoe the foot. Now, we regard extension of the suffrage as a measure demanded by political justice—and we hold that measures of justice cannot, with any show of propriety, be clipped and pared to suit our notions of what may serve our own views. It seems to us, therefore, that every man, not legally in the power of another—every man whom the laws recognise as his own master, free to dispose of himself according to his own mind, may equitably claim from present constituencies the restitution of his rights—and the severity or liberality of the terms on which the franchise is extended is but the harsher or more kindly application of slave law. These minor plans of reform proceed upon the assumption that, in a political sense, certain classes of men appertain to us, and that, although disposed to deal liberally with them, we cannot recognise the fee simple of their rights as vested in themselves.

2. Every one of them goes to the perpetuation of class distinctions, and continues all the terrible, but insidious, and therefore usually unsuspected, evils of caste. They leave a festering sore in the body politic for national disaster to chafe, and for unprincipled demagogues to inflame. The little which is *not* done is just enough to take from all that is done the venerable sanction of justice, but not enough, in any case we have yet seen, to avert the fancied danger of placing government under efficient popular control. They are just like every other incomplete and non-principled proceeding. They open the door to possibilities, but not with that boldness of air which may show that they are quite competent to grapple with them, if need be. Meanwhile, the exclusion of but a few takes from the constitution the advantage of resting its claims for respect upon the evident justice of its provisions. The race of Pariahs, although much circumscribed in extent, is still kept up. Some men are reserved as outcasts; and their degradation will be all the more palpable, all the more galling, in proportion to their paucity of numbers. We think it neither salutary nor wise thus to clap a seton upon the arm of the state—and we repudiate that pusillanimity which dares not do complete justice.

3. We have further to add respecting these various schemes, that none of them would work out a permanent settlement of the question. As they would leave a large class unsatisfied, so they would furnish a broad ground for future agitation. We have more than once intimated that change in our institutions, in itself considered, is a serious evil. It greatly resembles, in point of inconvenience, the alteration by a tradesman of the premises upon which he carries on his business. It deranges everything and incommodes everybody. It draws off the attention and energy which ought to flow in the ordinary routine of social life, into an exclusively political channel. One has nothing but scaffolding and dust, hammering and mortar-mixing, until the whole thing is completed. For a day or two this may be very well, as affording a little pleasing excitement. But it soon becomes inexpressibly wearisome and disgusting. We cannot be always reforming—cannot afford to be dabbling every year in alterations of the constitution. It is far better, to get the affair out of hand once for all; and to frame our legislature upon a self-adapting, and self-correcting principle.

4. It may be remarked of all these plans, in common, that they can neither command, nor even anticipate success. Each of them may boast of its own little party of adherents—but a little party will not suffice to carry parliamentary reform. Upon this topic, however, we shall not enlarge. It deserves separate consideration. We shall treat of it in our next.

NOTTINGHAM PROSPECTS.

THE accounts we receive from this borough enable us to hazard the prediction that Mr Sturge will ere long take the seat vacated by Sir G. de H. Larrent. All ranks of reformers are united, and popular enthusiasm is at its height. Stirring addresses to the Nottingham electors are forwarded from all parts of the kingdom; and the unrepresented have called upon their more favoured brethren who possess the franchise to spurn the temptations which faction may throw in their way, and to discharge the trust committed to them in unison with the wishes of those whom they are said to represent. Anything like extensive bribery is rendered well-nigh impossible. Mr Walter has already found to his dismay the difference between contesting the ground with mere party, using the weapons of corruption, and with a great vital principle associated with purity and peace. Whether he will venture upon an engagement, it is not for us to conjecture; but we can promise him a much warmer reception, though in another sense than his own, than he appears to have anticipated.

Why need we say that we look to the issue of this electoral conflict with palpitating anxiety? We do but share in the general feeling of the country. The Nottingham electors occupy a proud and enviable position—right nobly do they appreciate it. They are now the vanguard of freedom's forces. It is for them to give

entity to a principle which until now has been but an airy opinion, an unembodied abstraction. "If," says Dr Campbell, "in order to avoid some imminent danger, or to attain some valuable end, I must climb a steep and craggy mountain, to appearance inaccessible, or must pursue my way through some lone and dreary desert; do but show me the print of a human foot, or rather point out others who appear to have successfully engaged in the same arduous enterprise, and I shall sooner be prevailed on to attempt it than by ten thousand arguments." Nottingham is destined to show the way to national regeneration by the print of her own footsteps. Her success will teach our constituencies a sublime lesson. All our large boroughs will pant to follow her. She is at this moment "the observed of all observers." A nation poisoned with the corrupt practices of party—sick, exhausted, and expiring, has been taught to believe that the disease is ineradicable. Nottingham has stepped forward to prove that it is not. Her solemn and emphatic "No" has resounded through the empire, and once again hope flashes in the eyes of the people. She has now to make good her bold assurance—and she will do it.

Men talk about the futility of pitting electoral purity, even when great principles are at stake, against the multiform arts of intimidation and corruption. If they are right, then we had better at once give up the "complete suffrage" agitation. The only chance of its success lies in the moral power with which it goes hand in hand. Temperance, purity, and peace will do more to insure for it a lasting triumph than even the dignity of the principle itself. Base means were never yet productive of noble results. To obtain "complete suffrage" by bribery would be but to hand over the franchise to the labouring classes with this label affixed to it, "Sell it if you can." There are thousands who will gladly range themselves with the advocates of our principle, not so much from attachment to, or confidence in, it, as from a determination to break the power of corruption. But if we can be induced to show ourselves men of easy political virtue, we abandon our only tenable position—come down from our heights, and encounter the foe just upon that very ground upon which he can bring all his forces to bear with effect upon us. Bribery and intimidation are the cavalry of party politicians. In these forces they can always, in the main, outnumber us. It is perfect folly for us to attempt to cope with them. Our wisdom will consist in rendering them useless—making them stand by as mere spectators of the encounter; and this we can only do by taking our stand upon high moral ground, and raising popular enthusiasm on behalf of our principles. Nottingham is showing us that this may be done—and we trust the lesson will be written on the heart of every constituency in the empire.

We hold that to teach impressively, and on a large scale, the superiority of moral over physical means, to develop the hidden energy of principle, to give practical exemplification of the power of truth, is to confer a signal blessing upon mankind. They who are thus engaged are advancing the cause of civilisation, order, and true religion. They are infusing into society a new element of peace and progress. They are erecting another barrier against the march of human depravity. The moral effects of their success will be greater even than the political. It will clothe virtue with a new dignity. It will teach men to value self-respect. It will awaken a novel and truly dignified ambition in the debased constituencies of the country. Nottingham we fondly hope will be the bright light at which other electoral bodies will kindle the flame of sacred patriotism—a flame which will devour with unexampled rapidity the rubbish left by the orgies of faction. She has the best wishes of the pure and the enlightened of every class; and good men and true in every part of the empire must fervently pray that she may achieve a conquest worthy of her high merits.

THE WAR IN AFFGHANISTAN.

THE last overland mail brings intelligence from India of mixed success and defeat; the former, however, having the predominance. Akbar Khan has been worsted by General Sale, and the Khyber Pass forced by General Pollock. On the other hand, Ghuznee has been surrendered into the hands of the Affghans; and General England, who endeavoured to force the Passes between Candahar and Scinde, was obliged to retreat with loss, upon Quettah. Shah Soojah has been poisoned by his own subjects, and Affghanistan is described as in a state of distraction from one end to the other. Such is the precious result of Lord Auckland's policy. Fifteen millions of money have been spent, and more than fifteen thousand lives destroyed, in forcing upon an unwilling people a hated and long-deposed monarch, who first betrays his own allies, and is then murdered by his own subjects. In all probability the war will be terminated by reinstating Dost Mohammed, the sovereign of the Affghan's choice, whom we undertook to depose; and in our evacuation of a country which we invaded without a single reasonable motive, and in which we have met with nothing but disaster. For this freak, which the forbearance of the middle class towards the whigs when in office allowed to be played without remonstrance, we are now visited with a grinding income tax. From the tone of the public press, we infer that all parties are anxious to withdraw from the bootless contest as soon as may be. A little more slaughter, and a few more "brilliant successes" will, we should imagine, satisfy the nation's desire for retribution. One good effect, however, we anticipate from this infamous war. It has done much, very much, to open the eyes of the people of this country to the iniquity of the whole system; and has so far ripened public opinion as to render a meddling and aggressive policy a matter of extreme difficulty for the future. People will not be so ready to sow to the wind after having been compelled to reap the whirlwind.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

Paris papers contain no news of importance. The Chamber of Deputies voted on Thursday the bill relative to the foreign refugees, who are to remain a year longer under the special *surveillance* of the police, and another granting 30,000*fr.* to be employed in making experiments for the establishment of a night telegraph. On Friday the Chamber passed the revenue bills. The peers passed on the same day the great Railroad bill. On Thursday, the King laid the first stone of the fort of the Bicêtre, which is to command the plain of Villejuif, the valley of the Bievre, and the road to Italy. This fort will have five bastions, three of which are to be turned against Paris. The *Times*' correspondent, says the matters in dispute between Great Britain and the United States are in train of arrangement. The "right of visit," not "right of search," would be acquiesced in by the American government, and the boundary question arranged in a friendly manner.

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 27th contains the decrees of the Regent, accepting the resignations of the Ministers of Finance and Marine. By two other decrees, published in the same journal, M. Antonio Maria Valle, intendant of Porto Rico, was appointed *ad interim*, to succeed M. Surra y Rull, and M. Evaristo San Miguel, the minister of war, was to assume also *pro tempore*, the direction of the marine department. The journals give several lists of candidates for the next administration. Those supported by the majority of the congress were Messrs Ferrer, to be minister for foreign affairs and president of the council; Landero, minister of justice; Don Ramon Calatrava, minister of finance; Montanes, or Laserna, of the interior; Linage, of war; and Capaz, of marine. The opposition had put forward two lists. In one, M. Olozaga was to be minister for foreign affairs, and president of the council; M. Cortina, minister of the interior; M. Cantero, of finance; M. Chacon, or M. Linage, of war; M. Luzuriaga, or Montanes, of justice; M. Vadillo, of marine. In the second list were M. Cortina, as minister for foreign affairs, with the presidency of the council; M. Domenech, minister of the interior; M. Fuente Herrero, minister of justice; M. Ayllon, minister of finance; M. Linage, or Serrano, minister of war, and M. Capaz, minister of marine. The French government received on Friday afternoon a telegraphic despatch from Bayonne, announcing that the Spanish cabinet gave in its resignation on the 30th ult. The Regent had sent for MM. Olozaga and Ferrer, and the Presidents of both Chambers, to confer with them on the formation of a new cabinet, but nothing had been decided. It was said that MM. Olozaga and Ferrer had refused to take upon themselves the construction of a ministry. The Cortes had suspended their sittings until the close of the ministerial crisis.

PORTUGAL.

Advices have been received from Lisbon to the 30th of May. The commercial and slave-trade treaties were both in such a state of forwardness, that there was no doubt whatever of their being signed within a week or ten days. A council of ministers had been held on the Saturday, at which all the questions relating to these negotiations were fully discussed. Some objections were made by the Ministers of Justice and Marine, but after explanation by Baron Tojal, the government pronounced its opinion unanimously in favour of the treaties. A council of state was held on the 30th ult., for the special purpose of coming to a decision before the departure of the packet for England, and at this council both the commercial and slave-trade treaties were finally agreed to.

CHINA.

Intelligence from Macao to the 6th of March has been received; but it is not of great importance. Sir Henry Pottinger remained at Hongkong, whither he was about to remove the post office and all other British establishments from Macao. There were occasional fires in the wooden buildings there. He has issued some proclamations; by one of them Hongkong and Tinghae in Chusan, were declared to be free ports, and to remain, as well as Amoy, in our possession until the British demands were satisfied. If any one of them is to be vacated due notice is to be given, and a special stipulation is to be made for the safety of the native Chinese who may have sided with the English. The batteries along the Canton river were completed, and some of them unmasked; yet no apprehension was entertained of immediate hostilities. Business was dull. The head quarters of Sir Hugh Gough continued at Ningpo; he and the naval commander were, as it is stated, authorised to act in cases requiring urgent decision, without waiting to consult the Plenipotentiary. Sir H. Gough was about to disperse a body of Chinese troops collected near Yu-Yuou. The French Vice-Consul, M. Challaye, and some Frenchmen, having ventured too far, were seized and insulted by the Chinese, but released after some parley. It was said that there were Russian officers at Pekin, giving instructions in military matters to the Chinese. The coast is now infested with pirates. A war about to break out between Cochinchina and Siam was considered likely to have some influence in the settlement of the British demands upon China. The Siamese monarch threatened to invade Cochinchina, which is tributary to China, and this might tend to embarrass the councils of the court of Pekin. The King of Siam had, through the influence of the neighbouring British, been induced to grant a portion of his ancient territory to the son of the old Rajah of Quetta. The governor of Prince of Wales's Island had published a proclamation, announcing the final cessation of slavery within that district.

INDIA.

The Indian mail brings tidings of triumphs in the north, being the forcing of the Khyber Pass, the relief of Sale, and the vengeance taken on Ukhbar Khan. In the south of the Affghan country, Ghuznee has fallen, with its regiment of sepoys, and Colonel Palmer, their commander, has been forced to capitulate. General Nott, at Candahar, had hitherto resisted all attacks, and defeated the plans of the natives. But these, in turn, had successfully blocked up the passes between Candahar and Scinde, and General England, who endeavoured to force these passes, was obliged to retreat, with loss, upon Quetta. The advance of General England was made in ignorance of the deter-

mined hostility of the hill tribes. The following account of the forcing of the Khyber pass is abridged from the *Bombay Times* :—

This defile, one of the most formidable and impenetrable in Asia as a line of military defence, extends from Jumrood upwards in the direction of Jellalabad without interval for the space of 28 miles, throughout 22 of which it has hitherto been reckoned impassable for an army when the inhabitants had determined to oppose them. General Pollock had mustered a force of nearly 8,000 men at Peshawur by the end of March, but was anxious, before moving, that the two brigades under Colonels White and Bolton, then on their way to join him with an additional force of about 5,000 men, should arrive. This, however, was impossible, as Jellalabad required immediate succour. On the 5th of April the army moved into the defile, which was obstructed at the entrance by heavy barricades of stone. The principal portions of the troops took possession of the heights, covered by a tremendous fire of grape and shrapnell from ten pieces of artillery. So soon as the hills were occupied, and the defile cleared by the guns, the principal column with the baggage moved along the dell, and reached Ali Musjid the following evening, with very trifling loss. The enemy were supposed to have mustered not fewer than ten thousand men; but finding their position completely turned, they seem speedily to have lost all confidence, and fled. The remaining thirteen miles, leading on to Lundee Khana, at the head of the pass, altogether, was traversed almost without opposition by the evening of the 9th. On the 10th the rear-guard reached Dakka, eight miles further on. The casualties incurred in the course of this most perilous advance are insignificant in amount; and the dangers of the ascent are now viewed as almost entirely over. It is probable that Jellalabad will be attained by the 15th April, the distance to be traveled over being no more than 47 miles. Candahar, Ghuznee, and Cabool, had within the period of modern history often yielded to the arms of victorious enemies: the Khyber pass was never forced till now.

The following is an extract from the despatch of General Sale, dated Jellalabad, April 7 :—

"Information was, on the evening of the 5th inst, brought into this place, that the force under Major-General Pollock, C.B., had met with a reverse in the Khyber, and retraced their steps towards Peshawur. It was on the same day announced that the Affghans were sending reinforcements to aid in defending the frontier passes. Although I could not wholly depend upon these statements, I came to the resolution of anticipating the last mentioned event, by a general attack on the Affghan camp, in the hopes of relieving the place from blockade, and facilitating General Pollock's advance. I accordingly gave directions to form three columns of infantry, and the detachment of sappers and miners; these were to be supported by the fire of the guns of No. 6 light field battery, and by the whole of my small cavalry force. The troops issued from the Cabool and Peshawur gate at daylight this morning. So far from the Sirdar having made dispositions to avoid the encounter, his whole force, not falling short in all of 6,000 men, was formed in order of battle, for the defence of his camp; the right resting on a fort, its left on the Cabool river, and even the ruined works, within 800 yards of the place, were filled with Ghilzie marksmen, recently repaired for stout resistance. The attack was led by the skirmishers and column under Captain Havelock, which drove the enemy from the extreme left of his advanced line of works, which it pierced at once, and proceeded to advance into the plain, whilst the central column directed its efforts against a square fort, the defence of which was obstinately maintained. The rear of this work having been gained by passing to its left, I gave orders for a combined attack on the enemy's camp. It was in every way brilliant and successful. The artillery advanced at the gallop, and directed a heavy fire on the Affghan centre, whilst two of the columns of infantry penetrated his line at the same point, and the third drove his left back from its support on the river, into the stream of which some of his horse and foot were forced. The Affghans made repeated attempts to check our advance by a smart fire of musketry, and throwing forward heavy bodies of horse, which twice closely threatened the troops under Captain Havelock, and by opening against us three guns from a battery screened by a garden wall, and said to have been served under the personal superintendence of the Sirdar; but in a short time, they were dislodged from every point of their position—their cannon taken, and their camp involved in a general conflagration. The battle was over and the enemy in full retreat in the direction of Lughman by about 7 A. M."

The following is the official despatch announcing the fall of Ghuznee into the hands of the Affghans. Colonel Palmer was safe in the town of Ghuznee at the time the news left, but it was not expected he would remain so long :—

"Ghuznee, March 1, 1842.

"SIR—It is with much concern I acquaint you, from want of water, and by an overpowering force under cover, and within fifty yards of us in the city, I have been compelled to enter into terms to evacuate the citadel and fort within six days. The garrison is to occupy the north-east corner of the town. The garrison is exhausted by fatigue and constant duty, and the men have suffered greatly from cold, the thermometer having been 14 degrees below zero. The terms are honourable treatment and safety whilst here and on the march to Cabool, solemnly sworn to by the chiefs. In capitulating I have only acted up to the orders of Major Pottinger and General Elphinstone, who directed me in an official letter to evacuate the city and citadel on the arrival of Roohillad-Khan, the Sirdar of Logua. This chief arrived and promised to escort us in safety to Cabool. Amoon Shamrooden Khan, nephew of Dost Mahomet Khan, has also arrived as governor of Ghuznee and political agent. I received instructions to march immediately on his arrival for Cabool, from the late Sir W. M'Naghten, Bart. Abandoned as this garrison has been, in the very centre of the enemy's country, cut off from all communications with any quarter, and without a sufficiency of water even at this season, with 200 men detached, to hold an outpost which is destitute of water, and must have fallen in 48 hours, nothing but capitulation remained. From the outpost falling into the hands of the enemy, they would command our only well and commanding fort, and the whole garrison would have been destroyed in a few days. The bearer has received only subsistence on the road, and is to receive a handsome reward on delivering this letter. We have upwards of 100 sick and wounded, and 137 casualties. The officers, including Captain Burnett, 54th, and Lieutenant Crawford, S.S. Force, are all well.

(Signed) J. PALMER, Lieut. Col."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Parliamentary Reform association on Friday last, after the dispatch of the ordinary business, the following address to the electors of Nottingham was agreed to :—

"The Metropolitan Parliamentary Reform Association.—To the Inhabitants of Nottingham.

"More than sixty years your town was one of the chief places in which that good man and father of parliamentary reform, Major Cartwright, numbered many of his most zealous co-operators. In your town the 'twenty-four worthies' signed their celebrated declaration condemning Pitt's unholy war against human freedom. And from those periods up to the passing of the Reform bill, Nottingham has stood forward the champion of universal suffrage, which has served as the rallying cry for Lord Blandford, in utterly routing the Tories again and again.

"Since the passing of the Reform bill there has been no great agitation for any great principle to counteract the subtle election practices of the aristocracy, and corruption has consequently crept on little by little, till Nottingham is at length on the point of being ranked as one of the most venal boroughs.

"You have now an opportunity of wiping off this stain of corruption, of regaining your lost high character, and at the same time of setting an example to the rest of the kingdom.

"Can you hesitate in choosing between purity of election and degrading corruption? Can you go on selling yourselves to the base traffickers in parliamentary seats? Will you now, when an agitation for radical principles is begun again, and the country is everywhere rising to demand a thorough reform of the House of Commons, will you abandon the cause you have so long cherished, and brand yourselves with indelible disgrace? No. It is only a comparatively small number of the present electors whose

criminal love of gold will induce them to turn traitors to their town and their country. They must be known. Can no entreaties of their townsmen and neighbours rouse them from their hateful seduction? Are there no appeals to honest feelings—no representations of the vileness of vote-selling that will influence them? Honest inhabitants of Nottingham, try all kindly and persuasive means to bring your corrupt electors back to the paths of honesty, and if they fail, let them know that bribery will henceforth be exposed and punished, and that you will make out a recreant list, and publish it to the scorn of the whole kingdom.

"The late tory candidate has declared his intention again to contest the approaching election, and affirms that the enormous sums of money spent by him in his two previous contests at Nottingham, have been most innocently devoted to legal expenses. You know, and he knows, that his only chance of success is in his purse. He is a man of business, and will not venture his money carelessly. Depend upon it, therefore, that his agents calculate upon purchasing the votes of so many miserable dupes of corruption as they and he think will secure his return.

"We need not call upon you to bestir yourselves, for that you are doing, very many of you, with a vigour worthy of an honest cause, and the pure and elevated character of the man who has so boldly espoused that cause. Joseph Sturge stands forth the consistent advocate of freedom—religious, social, and political. After acting as a leader in freeing the black slaves of the colonies, he turns now in commiseration of the white slaves at home, and puts himself at the head of the movement for their political emancipation, utterly regardless of the prejudices which the bribery classes have too successfully inculcated to deter the peaceful and philanthropic from mixing in political affairs.

"We await the result of the contest, confident that you will not relax in your efforts, nor leave any fair means untried of securing a victory for purity of election over the utterly detestable bribery system. By order of the business committee,

"9, John street, Adelphi, June 3, 1842. J. ROBERTS BLACK, Secretary."

A meeting of the friends of complete suffrage was held at Thornton's Coffee house, Knightsbridge, on Wednesday last. Mr Anderson in the chair. Messrs Swatten, Gifford, Elmes, Brown, and Charles Westerton, one of the delegates to the late Birmingham conference, addressed the meeting, who passed a resolution, dissolving their former association, and forming themselves into one called "The Knightsbridge Complete Suffrage association." Mr Westerton announced that the association would hold its meetings every Wednesday evening at the same place, and solicited the co-operation of all in the neighbourhood who were favourable to its object.

A meeting of the Metropolitan Deputies of the Protestant Dissenters of the Three Denominations, was held on the 1st inst., at the King's Head tavern, in the Poultry, when loyal and dutiful addresses to the Queen and her illustrious Consort upon her Majesty's merciful preservation from the recent traitorous attempt, were unanimously agreed upon. The meeting had been called for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning parliament for the abolition of church rates, with reference to the Ecclesiastical Corporations Leasing bill, now before the House of Commons; and also against certain regulations of the Poor-law Commissioners restricting the religious rights of dissenting inmates of workhouses, and insisting upon the appointment of stipendiary chaplains. Petitions to this effect were subsequently agreed upon.

A special general court of East India proprietors was held on Friday, at which addresses of congratulation to the Queen and Prince Albert on her Majesty's providential escape from the attempt at assassination, after a few words from Mr Weeding, Mr Twining, and Mr David Salomons, were agreed to with acclamation.

On Saturday evening a second great meeting of Mr Hullah's classes for vocal music took place in Exeter hall. The number of the pupils, who completely filled the body of the hall, appeared to be about the same number as assembled at the first choral meeting, amounting to 1,600 or 1,700. The performances consisted of a repetition of the same pieces of music and vocal exercises. Her Majesty the Queen Dowager was present, attended by a numerous suite; and noble and distinguished personages were among the audience. The pupils acquitted themselves in a very satisfactory manner.

PROVINCIAL.

The cause of complete suffrage, from all we can learn, will achieve a triumph in the election of Joseph Sturge for Nottingham. The town presents a healthy excitement, such as is seldom seen during contested elections. For the past ten days there have been ward meetings, and public meetings, nearly every night. The non-electors have been addressed by Mr O'Connor, and several others, and the ward meetings principally by Mr Sturge and Mr Vincent. At every meeting, resolutions were unanimously carried in favour of Joseph Sturge, in the midst of deafening cheers. Last Wednesday night Mr Sturge addressed the populace from the committee room window, and the people were loud in their approbation of peaceable and orderly sentiments. Mr Sturge said:—

"He could not but be gratified at the way in which that great meeting had received him, as a testimony of approbation not to him personally, but to the great principles he advocated. He need not repeat that he was prepared to support the six points of what was called the people's charter. He believed the exposures which had taken place the last few weeks in the House of Commons would remove the doubts of many of those friends who agreed with the other points, as to the advantage of annual parliaments, for if the members had to return to their constituents for re-election at the end of every twelve months, even under the present system, they would not consider it worth while to spend the sums they now did in bribery and corruption. Many, however, had been deterred from acting in furtherance of the great object we had in view, not because they disputed the justice of our principles, but because some who advocated them considered they were justified in resorting to physical force for their attainment. Perhaps this was not much to be wondered at, considering the example set them by those who held the reigns of power and government in this country. He did not wish to sit in judgment on those who differed from him in opinion, but he was one of those who held that under the Christian dispensation he was forbidden to take away the life of a single human being, even to save his own; therefore he could not take part or act with those who recommended a resort to it for securing the dearest rights of his fellow countrymen. He was also convinced that a strict adherence to moral and pacific means was as much dictated by sound policy as true principle, for all history proved, that a resort to brute force, even when successful in its immediate object, only ended in raising one despotism on the ruins of another, and the working classes were always the sufferers by it, whichever party was victorious. He was, however, rejoiced in believing that all the friends of the people were now united in the opinion that it was by peaceable means alone that their political regeneration ought to be or could be secured; and if this was the case, he hoped all past errors would be forgiven and forgotten, and that henceforward we should cordially unite for the attainment of our great object. He was satisfied there were thousands and tens of thousands of the middle classes who were ready to do full justice to their working fellow countrymen, and to aid them in their efforts to secure their full political rights, as soon as they were satisfied of their determination to attain them by moral and peaceable means alone; and when once the middle and working classes were firmly united in these exertions, he was persuaded that the most powerful aristocracy in the world would soon be completely conquered. He was also one of those who considered that if there were individuals who honestly disagreed with us in opinion, we should not assail them by harsh or unkind language, but try to convince them by reason and argument. There was nothing so irresistible as an invincible determination not to be the instruments in the execution of wicked laws. They were aware that this country was now at war with one-third of the human family, at the instigation of

a few opium smugglers, and had here probably, as they had at Birmingham, men in red coats, trying to entice boys to go to involve themselves in deeds of blood at the bidding of another; but if none of the people would ever enlist, not only would the iniquitous wars with China and India soon cease, but no government could uphold and enforce unjust laws if they had not a standing army and navy to back them. He firmly believed, that with a little common sense and common honesty in our legislation, there was ample materials in this country to secure to every sober and industrious person all the comforts of life; and one of the dearest wishes of his heart was that he might be permitted to see the day when the poorest man in this country was put upon an entire political equality with the most wealthy."

After Mr Sturge had declared his determination to act upon peaceable principles alone, Mr Feargus O'Connor spoke to the following effect:—

"I have always been a man of peace. I have always denounced the men who strove to tamper with an oppressed people by any appeal to physical force. I have always said, that moral force was that degree of deliberation in each man's mind which told him when submission was a duty or resistance not a crime; and that a true application of moral force would effect every change, but that in case it should fail, physical force would come to its aid like an electric shock—and no man could prevent it: but that he who advised or attempted to marshal it would be the first to desert it at the moment of danger [cheers]. God forbid that I should wish to see my country plunged into the horrors of physical revolution. I wish her to win her liberties by peaceable means alone [loud cheers]."

On Friday night Mr Vincent addressed the people from the same window, defending their right to the suffrage; and laying bare the vices of an aristocracy with an unsparing hand. An immense number of the middle classes were present, who evinced their approbation by loud cheers.

The following address was issued by Mr Sturge yesterday:—

"To the Electors and Non-electors of Nottingham."

"MY FRIENDS—As the expectation which a few days ago was entertained, that a new writ for the election of a member of parliament for your borough would forthwith be issued, is not now likely to be realised, and as it may be postponed for several weeks, I am glad to find that those friends who have actively exerted themselves to promote my return, concur with me in opinion that it would be improper any longer to occupy your time with public meetings, which will, therefore, for the present be discontinued.

"Allow me, however, to congratulate my friends upon the high position in which our cause now stands; contending, as we are, for the complete representation of the people, and for the important principle of purity of election.

"We have the cordial support of the great body of the inhabitants, and should our political opponent go to the poll, it is now evident that if no improper means are used against us, a large majority of votes will, on the day of election, be recorded in our favour.

"Yet, should the disgraceful practices of bribery and corruption be again carried to their utmost extent, I believe that the liberal constituents of Nottingham will not be deterred from doing their duty. Whatever may be the result, truth and justice will be greatly promoted by the approaching election, if we persevere in a strict adherence to the course we have hitherto pursued, of avoiding every kind of improper influence.

"It is to me particularly gratifying that the contest has already had a tendency to combine the true friends of a full, fair, and free representation of the people.

"Having uniformly asserted that this great object must be obtained by moral and peaceable means alone, I rejoice in the union of opinion on this subject, and that even those who do not, with myself, maintain the inviolability of human life, are fully convinced of the impolicy of physical force, and that in all cases a resort to violence will inflict the greatest misery upon the working classes.

"I would appeal to all honest friends of the people who may yet hesitate about the propriety and safety of granting to every man an equal share of political right, to examine whether their doubts and fears have any foundation in truth—to lay aside class antipathies and class apprehensions, and with a calm, dispassionate reason, weigh its merits in the scales of an upright judgment. If equal reasons still make decision doubtful, and judgment hangs wavering in the balance, Oh! throw the wishes of your poor, imploring brethren into the scale of justice; and if so be, the understanding doubts, let the heart decide."

"Birmingham, 6th month, 1842.

JOSEPH STURGE."

At a general meeting of the Kendal Complete Suffrage association, held last week, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to W. S. Crawford, Esq., M.P., for his patriotic conduct in endeavouring to secure the people's rights in parliament. A committee was appointed to draw up and forward an address to the electors and non-electors of Nottingham, requesting and urging them to support Mr Sturge. Rules and resolutions were definitely formed for the guidance of the association, which is in a very flourishing state. It was determined to hold meetings in the association's room once at least every month, for the purposes of discussion and encouragement.

On Friday night a meeting was held at the Freemason's hall, Hull, in furtherance of Mr Sturge's movement for an union of the middle and lower classes of reformers. Mr Richardson was in the chair. Mr Wild and Mr Burns addressed the meeting in favour of the proposed object, which was opposed by the supporters of the national charter association. A considerable number of individuals gave in their adhesion to the new association.—Hull Rockingham.

On Wednesday and Friday last, two lectures were delivered by the Rev. H. Solly of Yeovil, in the Corn Exchange, Exeter, on the national distress, its causes, and remedies. The first night was principally occupied in an exposure of the frightful state of the country, in tracing it to the worldly and unchristian standards of right and wrong, which have been handed down through many ages, increasing in mischievous effects, till a country, blessed by God with all the means of happiness, was reduced to the brink of ruin, and overspread with every species of misery and sin. The lecturer contrasted the aristocratic and commercial spirit with the spirit of Christianity, and concluded by pointing out the impossibility of such a state of things long continuing, and the urgent duty of all men to unite in bringing it to a satisfactory issue. On Friday he resumed the subject by observing that although, as he had impressed upon them in the previous lecture, no real or permanent good was to be expected from any political change, only in so far as the divine spirit of Christianity ruled in the hearts of those who governed and those who obeyed; yet that a vast amount of evil and obstruction might be prevented by making the government wholly responsible to the governed. He proceeded to argue the right of every citizen to the franchise, and showed that the ballot, payment of members, abolition of a property qualification, annual parliaments, and equal electoral districts, were essential to making the representation full, fair, and free. Having concluded with an earnest appeal to the sympathies and consciences of his hearers, a vote of thanks was moved by J. P. Wilkinson, Esq.; and seconded by

E. Davy, Esq., of Crediton. The meeting appeared to evince its satisfaction with the lecturer's doctrines by three hearty cheers and "one cheer more," and then quietly separated.

On Thursday last the nomination of candidates for the borough of Ipswich took place in the market-place. The Earl of Desart and Mr T. Gladstone were nominated on the side of the Tories; Mr Gisborne and Mr Moffatt were the liberal candidates. The greatest confusion prevailed during the whole time, and each party exerted themselves to prevent their opponents being heard. A close system of surveillance was kept up during the night by the liberal party, in order to prevent bribery on the part of the conservatives. The poll took place on Friday, and the greatest efforts were made on each side. The liberal candidates commenced with a majority in their favour, but the tables were soon turned, and at the close the numbers were—

For Earl Desart 680 (c)
Thos Gladstone, Esq. 673 (c)
Thos Gisborne, Esq. 543 (l)
George Moffatt, Esq. 541 (l)

The *Suffolk Chronicle* says that there was another candidate in the liberal interest, Mr Nicholson, who came forward as the friend of universal suffrage and the rights of the people, but that by his inconsistent and ridiculous conduct he lost the support of those who were friendly to his principles. Mr Nicholson obtained but three votes. The *Chronicle* further says—The complete suffrage declaration, having been signed by many in the town, had its effect by inducing Mr Gisborne, Mr Moffatt, and Mr Wason to attach their signatures, particularly as the resolution, embodying an address to the electors of Ipswich, passed at a meeting of the Birmingham association, was printed and extensively circulated on the day of nomination. Thus a great point has been gained, which, whenever another election occurs in this borough, cannot fail to produce lasting benefits.

Addresses of congratulation to her Majesty upon her late providential escape from assassination have been agreed to in almost every town in which the time at which the news was received has afforded opportunity for a meeting of the inhabitants. Addresses to Prince Albert and the Duchess of Kent, on the same subject, have been very generally adopted.

At a great meeting held at the Town hall, Birmingham, on Friday evening, the 3d instant, in commemoration of the jubilee of the formation of the Baptist Missionary society, William Knibb, in the course of his speech, stated that several members of the Baptist church had suffered imprisonment in the West Indies in consequence of their conscientious objection to perform military service. The following resolution was moved by Joseph Sturge, Esq., seconded by Francis Room, Esq., and carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting express their sincere sympathy with their Christian brethren in our West India colonies who, from a belief that all war is forbidden under the Christian dispensation, have suffered imprisonment rather than be employed in military service; and while they would encourage them in a firm adherence to their convictions of duty under every persecution, they recommend an application to the government in this country for their relief, and also for future protection from such unjust proceedings."

The state of destitution at Burnley, in Lancashire, is most appalling. The guardians of that union are quite unable to give relief, and have written to the Secretary of State. 12,000 persons are on the relief books, and 7d. a day is the full earnings of any working man, being 3s. 9d. per week at best, in full work. Sir John Walsh has been sent down by government, and he has distributed £500 among them. An outbreak is expected. On Sunday, 20,000 people met at Enfield.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Accounts from the manufacturing districts, represent upon the whole a revival in trade. At Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, and Blackburn, a slight improvement was manifested. At Manchester the market has been more animated during the past week, but there is no confidence in its continuance. The state of the trade at Stockport and the neighbourhood is stated to be worse than in any other town in the county. The machinery in seventeen cotton factories is at a stand. Many thousand operatives are out of employment, so that about £6000 less is paid in weekly wages than was paid in 1836. Since that period twenty manufacturing concerns have failed in the borough, and there are at present upwards of 3000 empty houses.

IRELAND.

On Thursday the committee appointed to try the merits of the Belfast election unanimously resolved—"That J. Emerson Tennant, Esq., and W. G. Johnson, Esq., had not been duly elected to serve in the present parliament for the borough of Belfast, and ought not to have been returned. That the late election was a void election." The case against the sitting members was the want of accommodation in the polling booths for the liberal voters, most of whose names commence with an "M." Between the hours of ten and four o'clock, a period during which, in England, ten thousand voters could be polled, only eighty votes had been taken at the M booth at this election. Thus, although the majority of the sitting members was upwards of a hundred, had there been the proper facilities for voting there as at the other booths, the liberal candidates would have been in a majority of from two to three, or over four hundred. This decision, come to after but one day's sitting, is said to be the result of another of those shameless compromises which Mr Roebuck is very properly endeavouring to bring to light.

All the provision markets in Dublin are steadily advancing, especially the prices of corn and potatoes. Oatmeal, on account of its extreme scarcity, has risen to 17s. per cwt. For two months, at least, we shall have what may truly be called starvation prices, and tremendous suffering amongst the humble classes. When the new potato crop begins to appear in the markets, the poor will experience some relief. There is now a much greater breadth of potatoes planted than in any previous year, owing to the alarm produced by the tariff early in the spring, which induced farmers to sow potatoes instead of oats, and several landlords to break up their pasture land, from an apprehension that the grazing of cattle would be totally unremunerative.—*Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle*.

SCOTLAND.

The Sturge movement at Cupar, is progressing rapidly. The asso-

ciation held their second meeting last week, chose their committee, and appointed their secretary and treasurer.

On Wednesday, the 25th ult., the General Assembly refused, by large majorities, to translate the presentee to Kilmarnock (against whom the veto had been attempted in vain), mainly because he had assisted one of the Strathbogie ministers, and directed the presbytery of Edinburgh to refuse a certificate to Mr Munro, the presentee to Fala, because he had given it as his opinion that ministers who cannot conscientiously give obedience to the decrees of the supreme civil courts ought to leave the church. On Thursday the case of the clergymen who have held communion with the Strathbogie ministers came before the House, when eleven ministers were placed at the bar. The accused at once admitted the truth of the charge. Dr Candlish addressed the assembly on the question. His great object appeared to be to prove that the accused, though delinquent, were not so guilty as the Strathbogie ministers. The minority and the accused did not consider it necessary to offer one word in defence, and the result was that the eleven were to be again summoned on Monday. On Friday Mr Clark was deposed; and the settlement of Mr Middleton was annulled for appealing to the civil courts against the decree of the assembly. At the sitting on Monday the case of the eleven brethren was brought under the consideration of the Assembly, and Dr Gordon read the report of the committee appointed to deal with them, from which it appeared that the parties adhered to the principles and declarations they had previously avowed and made. Dr Cook said that he and his friends adhered to their first protest, and would not further interfere. On the motion of Dr Makellan, seconded by Mr Buchan, it was ordered that the several ministers be suspended from their judicial functions as members of their respective presbyteries, and of the other superior church judicatories, until the first Wednesday of March next. Judgment of suspensions was accordingly passed by the House, after which the parties entered their protest against the sentence. The Rev. David Wilson, of Stranraer, against whom the presbytery had prepared a libel charging him with gross immorality, had obtained an interdict from the court of Session, on the plea that the proceedings were vitiated by the participation of *quoad sacra* ministers: the objection was repelled; Mr Wilson was cited to appear at the bar; and he was deposed. On the overture of the presbytery of Glasgow, Mr Dunlop moved a resolution declaring that the Assembly adhered to the declaratory act of 1834 respecting *quoad sacra* parishes. Mr Cunningham moved, and carried, a resolution that presbyteries be instructed to be careful in examining candidates for the ministry; his object being to prevent that "ignorance" which has been displayed in the discussions on the church question; and he also moved that a committee be appointed to consider what measures ought to be adopted to secure the obedience of all the licentiates of the church. On the motion of Dr Candlish it was resolved that "the 21st of July, be observed as a solemn day of humiliation and prayer, with reference to the distress of the country, and the destitution prevailing amongst the poor and working classes, that it may please Almighty God to remove from this church and country the tokens of his righteous displeasure." After some further unimportant business and an impressive speech from the Moderator, the Assembly was dissolved by him, on Monday night, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the High Commissioner in the name of the Crown. The next assembly was appointed to be holden on the 18th of May, 1843.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

FOURTEEN PERSONS DROWNED.—An awful occurrence took place at Beaumaris, on the 30th ult., by the upsetting of the ferry boat, which has been accustomed to convey a considerable number of persons across the channel to the Lavin Sands to gather cockles. When on her return, at the beginning of flood-tide, with fifteen persons on board, the boat (a small one) shipped a large quantity of water. Several of the passengers went suddenly to the opposite side, causing her to capsize, when, lamentable to relate, only one individual escaped, by means of swimming back to the Sands, a distance of nearly 200 yards. Five of the unfortunate persons were picked up in about twenty minutes, but life was wholly extinct. Nine were picked up at low water, making fourteen in all who perished on the lamentable occasion.

DREADFUL EXPLOSION.—An explosion of a very serious character, took place on Saturday morning at the Apothecaries' Hall, Union street, Blackfriars. It appears, that Mr H. Hennell, who was at the head of the experimental department, was in the act of preparing a quantity of detonating powder, which had been ordered for the East India Company's service. At about ten o'clock the neighbourhood was thrown into great alarm and consternation, caused by a tremendous explosion, which was discovered to proceed from that part of the Apothecaries' Hall in which Mr Hennell was engaged. He was preparing the powder, it seems, in the open air at the time of its explosion. As soon as it was possible to get near the spot, it was discovered that Mr Henry Hennell had been killed on the spot. The surrounding buildings were all shattered, and upwards of 500 windows were destroyed. Fortunately Mr Hennell was the only person on the spot, or the accident would have been most frightful. The body of Mr Hennell was dreadfully mutilated, his arms being literally torn from his body.

NOTORIETY OF MURDERERS.—Of all the short cuts to notoriety in England, murder is the shortest. Let a man shed blood—let him commit some ruthless act of homicide, and he instantly becomes a most interesting object of art. * * * The offender is brought to the bar; nobles grace the bench; and an artist (one Alexander Driscoll—*vide Globe*) is favoured with a magisterial ticket, for the express purpose of investing with graphic immortality the aristocracy on the seat of justice in goodly company with the blood-shedder under question. A less refined, less civilised people than ourselves, would start with vulgar horror from a murderer—would do justice on the malefactor with due, yet brief solemnity. We are wiser. We show a murderer "as men show an ape." We rake together all the outlying incidents of his life—we retail his conversation—we give his picture in little—we leave no vile task undone, no loathsome path untrod, to feed the appetite we create,—a morbid, wolfish craving for all that's foul and hideous in humanity. We familiarise the social mind with

the blood-shedder—we make him so much a part of the daily concerns of life for the time being, that we insensibly merge our horror in our curiosity. The iniquity of the assassin is almost neutralised by the small-talk that is lisped about him. * * * To take human life is terrible; but is there no guilt in moral murder? Is there no crime in systematically killing the finest sensibilities of our nature by daily and hourly familiarising them with the atrocities of monsters?—*London Charivari*.

A MAMMOTH.—In the excavation of the cutting for the railway at Marden, a splendid fossil elephant or mammoth (one tooth of which above 20lbs.) has been discovered 20 feet below the surface. This fact will be interesting to geologists, as the organic remains of this animal have never before been found so low in the series as the wealden formation in which the cutting is supposed to be made, and appears to prove that Marden hill is composed of a recent deposit above the weald clay. A portion of the bones are in the possession of Mr Barlow, the resident engineer of the line at Tunbridge, who is endeavouring to collect the whole animal; but unfortunately several waggon loads containing the remains were thrown into the embankment by the workmen.—*Maidstone Journal*.

FEEDING POULTRY.—Professor Gregory, of Aberdeen, in a letter to a friend, observes, "As I suppose you keep poultry, I may tell you that it has been ascertained, that if you mix with their food a sufficient quantity of egg shells or chalk, which they eat greedily, they will lay, *ceteris paribus*, twice or thrice as many eggs as before. A well-fed fowl is disposed to lay a vast number of eggs, but cannot do so without the materials for the shells, however nourishing in other respects her food may be; indeed, a fowl fed on food and water, from carbonate of lime, and not finding any in the soil, or in the shape of mortar, which they often eat off the walls, would lay no eggs at all, with the best will in the world."

RIPENING POTATOES.—Potatoes at this season of the year are often found to be watery and deficient in flavour, although boiled with the greatest care. It will be found that by placing them for a week before using near a fire or stove, they will have gained their proper consistence and flavour.

MODE OF EDUCATING DAUGHTERS.—The desire which many persons feel to give their children a better education than has been bestowed upon themselves, is laudable, because it proceeds from sincere affection; but how often is the success equal to the motive which actuates? How often is the manner of attempting at all calculated for attaining the object so earnestly sought? An ambition to promote the welfare of children reconciles parents to part with them at that tender age when they ought to command more constant care than they generally need at a more advanced time of life; and this ambition is so strong, that it will even cause little girls to be consigned to the blighting atmosphere of a crowded school room, there to bewail the loss of the warm hearth, or the airy room of their own homes, and all the comforts which depend upon a mother's solicitude. With a view to their being educated—that is to say, fitted for the world, and for the discharge of their respective duties in it—girls are sent to school, and are there condemned to a dull course of lessons, before their minds have sufficient strength to imbibe any kind of learning that requires mental labour, and before their understandings are equal to any greater exertion than that of receiving the difference between a roasted apple and a sugar plum.—*English Housekeeper*.

A JUVENILE INVENTOR.—I once knew a boy who was employed by his father to remove all the loose small stones which, from the peculiar nature of the ground, had accumulated in the road before the house. He was to take them up, and throw them over into the pasture across the way. He soon got tired of picking them up one by one, and sat down upon the bank to try to devise some better means of accomplishing his work; he at length conceived and adopted the following plan:—He set up in the pasture a narrow board for a target, or, as boys would call it, a mark, and then collecting all the boys in the neighbourhood, he proposed to them an amusement which boys are always ready for, firing at a mark. I need not say that the stores of ammunition in the street were soon exhausted, the boys working for their leader, when they supposed they were only finding amusement for themselves. Here now is experimenting upon the mind; the production of useful effect with rapidity and ease, by the intervention of proper instrumentality; the conversion, by means of a little knowledge of human nature, of that which would have otherwise been dull and fatiguing labour, into a most animating sport, giving pleasure to 20, instead of tedious labour to one.—*Abbott's Teacher*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Nottingham Committee Room, High street, June 4th, 1842

SIR—There is a temporary cessation to our labour. The uncertainty as to the time of issuing the writ, renders it expedient we should cease our agitation for the present, seeking only to preserve a healthy but subdued excitement.

The circumstances of our case teach the great moral lesson, that we should never despair of the result when our stand is made upon principle. When a few devoted friends invited Joseph Sturge to allow himself to be put in nomination for this town, it was done with a full conviction of the hopelessness of success. It was utterly beyond expectation that in a town memorable for its corruption and venality, there could be found public virtue enough to rally round so simple-hearted and inflexibly honest a man as our present candidate. But what has been the result? In a few weeks a righteous indignation against that wholesale system of demoralisation so prevalent at our elections has been produced—a power of popular feeling has been raised sufficient to awe down vice, and to give every reasonable hope of returning a true friend of the people to represent us. In a comparatively brief space of time, the dormant morality of the people has been aroused. The Tories stand aghast—and that miserable tool of the faction, the *Nottingham Journal*, is struck mute with dismay. One general feeling of enthusiasm pervades the town. The ward meetings have been remarkable for good feeling and unanimity. The public meetings have been numerous beyond precedent—peaceful and anxious. The immense assemblages have thronged together with intense eagerness to hear the insulted claims of humanity vindicated from the lips of men whose hearts were glowing with glorious truth, and expanding with sympathy for the oppressed millions of our countrymen. This has been done by direct, fair, and honest means. No prejudices have been flattered. The vices of the people have not been

pandered to—high moral ground has been taken. Intemperance, physical force, tumult, and intimidation, have been denounced as unworthy of the great struggle in which we are engaged. I trust we have felt the importance of the event. Conscious that the eyes of the whole country are upon us, and that we are fighting a national battle, one feeling seems to swell the masses—a desire to redeem the character of the town, to set a good example to the country, and to strike the first practical blow at the dominant sway of that class legislation, whose heartless triumphs are written with indelible characters o'er the degraded and enslaved working classes of this country. They feel it is no petty contest, that it is not a war of faction, but a glorious battle of principle against misrule, by whatever party name it may be called. It is the cause of right and virtue, of charity and religion, and must prevail.

May we hope that our example will be followed. That in every place where an election is to take place, the friends of complete suffrage will be up and doing. Erect your standard. Rally round it. Contest every foot of ground with the enemies of your principle; fight inch by inch for truth and justice; however hopeless it may appear, it cannot be more so than ours at the onset. Place implicit reliance on the integrity of the great equality you advocate; believe that a generous trust in the people will not be misplaced, for it is in them that the regenerators of our country must repose their hopes of ultimate success. Be just and fear not. Arouse the millions; assist to tear the badge of civil slavery from their neck; show yourselves co-operators in the work of their political redemption; and, believe me, they will make faithful allies. You have a great foe to meet; your courage and perseverance must be commensurate.

We have received addresses from all parts of the empire, speaking the deep interest of the nation in our movement; they are too numerous for individual acknowledgment, and where all are excellent, breathing the ardour of brotherly sympathy and the true spirit of patriotism, selection would be invidious. Allow me to hope that this general notice will be accepted with our grateful thanks. The consciousness that so many interests were in unison with our own has had much influence with us. When it is necessary for us again to renew the ardour of the struggle, I trust we shall prove ourselves worthy guardians of the post of honour which has fallen to us.

I remain, sir, yours very respectfully,

THOMAS BEGGS.

EDUCATIONAL AND COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Though I for my part am satisfied with your reply to the heretical proposal of the suffrage-test, mis-called educational, perhaps the following remarks may be adapted to some minds who waver under this pompously virtuous-sounding title. One of two things would take place. Either every male adult would qualify himself within a short time—say twelve months—to vote, or, on the contrary, very few of those, incapable of the test at the passing of such a law, would become capable until a very long time afterwards. If the former—if church-of-England man, catholic priest, dissenter, conservative operative associations, chartists, socialists, and all other sects, could, each in their respective anxiety to gain partisans, urge the whole population at once to become qualified, there would be no sensible difference between this plan and complete suffrage, in the members returned to the house of Commons. Knowledge, like all other effects in this world, must be the work of time, and is no more the immediate effect of ability to read and write, than it is of the possession of a ten pound note, which latter nevertheless is a valuable source of knowledge to those who rightly use it. This speedy attainment of the proposed test, might here and there cause a member to be returned by a greater or less majority than he would have under complete suffrage; or perhaps it might go so far as to put into the house of Commons about half a score different men to what would find their way there under the latter scheme. But in the measures passed by parliament, it is evident that half a score different men could effect no permanent difference beyond the greater or less majority, by which a proposal was carried or rejected. Whoever, then, objects to complete suffrage, must equally object to the proposed test, if he supposes it likely to be almost immediately and universally effective. But if very few of these, incapable of the test at the time of its establishment, would become capable until a long time afterwards, then, though it would afford a valuable extension of the suffrage, it would still, as compared with complete suffrage, establish a pernicious form of class legislation. It would be a contrivance for giving the utmost possible vigour to the effect of what truth there is in the maxim, "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing;" uncounteracted by the votes of the less schooled, but wiser and more virtuous "village Hampdens" that exist among the town as well as the rural population. The votes of these are necessary, that virtue may be represented as well as intellect. They would submit their judgments to those of their virtuous, beneficent, and wiser neighbours. They would swell the numbers which each such neighbour could bring to the poll; that is, they would assist in giving the greatest possible effect to those legitimate moral influences which ought to mould the laws. Unto every one has received a sound, intellectual, and moral education; until this is no longer partial, and therefore every degree of it as much a source of pride and distinction as a fine coat, book-learning will in many cases do nothing more than make a refined and accomplished rogue. A monopoly of book-learning is as bad as other monopolies. Its confinement to a few is the source of most of the evils that appear to have attended the partial extension of education. It matters not, then, that the rest of the population could, if they would, attain the educational suffrage test. The present hypothesis is that from some cause or other they would not. Now it is precisely among the smatterers in politics, those who can read and write and do nothing else, that anti-property doctrines prevail. Such, I know, are too few to prevent the test from being a great improvement on the present system. But under complete suffrage they would be neutralised by the non-readers, who never heard of anti-property doctrines; and this is sufficient for a decision in its favour, on the part of those who advocate the individuality of property, but deny its right to exclusive legislation. Under complete suffrage, it would be the interest of the rich to see that the poor were educated, quite as speedily as they would be under the inducement of the educational test.

W. P. G.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The Rev. Mr Tomlinson, one of the secretaries of the Christian Knowledge society, has been appointed bishop of Gibraltar.

The jubilee of the Baptist Missionary society was celebrated at Kettering last week, and a very numerous assemblage of visitors from all parts of the kingdom was collected on the occasion. A booth capable of containing upwards of 4,000 persons was erected, and all suitable arrangements were made for the accommodation of strangers. The appointed services commenced on Tuesday evening, with a sermon by the Rev. B. Godwin of Oxford, in the baptist chapel; Messrs Upton and Webb, and Dr Hoby taking parts in the service. At half-past six on Wednesday morning, a prayer meeting was held at the same place; and at half-past ten the Rev. E. Steane delivered a discourse

in the booth to about 4,000 persons. His text was, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." The address was read, and although it occupied two hours and a quarter, was listened to with unflagging attention throughout. At half-past five in the evening a public meeting was held in the booth, which was crammed in every part, there being more than 5,000 persons present. W. B. Gurney, Esq., occupied the chair and opened the business in a short and appropriate speech, after which Dr Cox moved and J. Tritton, Esq. seconded the following resolution.

"That this meeting, assembled at Kettering, the birth place of our Missionary society, in this, the fiftieth year of its existence, looks back to the period of its formation with devout and fervent gratitude to God, on account of that important event, and the spirit of prayer which preceded and accompanied it, and the piety, talents, devotedness, and perseverance of its early friends and promoters."

The Rev. A. G. Fuller supported the resolution in an eloquent speech, in the course of which he referred, in a touching manner, to the strong affection which subsisted between his father and the late Mr Toller, and concluded by presenting £50., with which he had been entrusted by a lady. The Rev. J. P. Mursell of Leicester moved and the Rev. J. Tinson seconded the next resolution which was as follows:—

"That this meeting acknowledges the mercy and faithfulness of God, in having sustained the society through the long period of fifty years, and, notwithstanding the great and frequent difficulties with which it has had to struggle, enabled it to attain its present extent and efficiency in the East and West Indies, and other parts of the world; and desires to express its affectionate sympathy with all our missionaries in the joys and sorrows connected with their arduous and important work."

Mr Mursell read an interesting letter from Mr Fuller to Mr Stedman, giving an account of Mr Carey's prompt offer to accompany Mr Thomas to India; and, after an allusion to Mr Knibb, as "that strange Luther of his day," earnestly recommended that no difference of sentiment should be suffered to disunite the baptists from their fellow-Christians of other denominations, their union being indispensable at the present day. The third resolution was moved by the Rev. W. Brock and seconded by the Rev. W. Knibb. It was as follows:—

"That this meeting, while it hails with joy and gratitude the prospects now opening before the mission, and feels it a privilege to be engaged in the service of God and the propagation of the gospel, would acknowledge the responsibilities connected therewith. It desires, also, to express its cordial approbation of the objects of the jubilee fund, and, for their accomplishment, recommends united, self-denying, and generous effort."

The fourth resolution was moved by the Rev. J. Russell:—

"That this meeting, recognising the necessity of the Divine blessing to crown human efforts with success, earnestly desires, that there may be, in the friends of the mission and of kindred societies, a stronger faith in God's promises, and more humble, importunate, and constant prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, that the churches at home may be favoured with peace and prosperity, and that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of God."

The Rev. J. Angus moved a vote of thanks to the parties by whom the mission house had been lent for the celebration of the jubilee, which was carried by acclamation, and the meeting separated. Other meetings were held simultaneously at the two chapels, to accommodate those who could not find room in the booth and the whole were crowded to excess. At eight o'clock on Thursday morning, several hundred persons assembled in the British school room, and partook of breakfast. At the close of which, Dr Cox moved the adoption of a memorial to her Majesty on her escape from assassination. Addresses were subsequently delivered to the assembly by the Revs W. Knibb, T. F. Newman, Eustace Carey, W. Brock, T. Toller, and others. We understand the subscriptions to the jubilee fund amount to nearly £10,000.

The Rev. S. S. Baker has accepted the unanimous call of the baptist church and congregation at Millwood, near Todmorden. The Rev. S. S. B. entered upon his stated labours on Whitsunday last.

On Thursday week a new independent chapel was opened at Newton-in-the-Willows, three sermons being preached by the Revs Dr Raffles, J. Kelly, of Liverpool, and E. H. Nolan, of Manchester. The devotional services were conducted by the Rev. J. W. Massie, and other ministers from the neighbourhood. The congregations were most respectable, and the collections were liberal. The chapel has been built by friends of religion interested in the welfare of the people residing here, who have undertaken the responsibility of the debt incurred by the erection. A dinner was provided at the Legh Arms, Newton, between the morning and afternoon services, when a large company sat down, with Dr Raffles in the chair, John Rylands, Esq., and Joseph Evans, Esq., acting as deputy-chairmen.

MARRIAGES.

On Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the office of the deputy registrar, Mr J. S. CRISP, of London, to Miss CHILDS, of Bungay.

June 1, at East Parade chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. John Ely, Mr THOMAS YEATES, to Miss MARY ABMITAGE, both of that town.

June 2, at the independent chapel, Lancaster, by the Rev. Samuel Bell, Mr RICHARD HAYGARTH, to Miss MARY LUPTON, both of Lancaster.

June 3, at Cow lane chapel, Coventry, by the Rev. F. Franklin, Mr WILLIAM WALTON, to Miss ELIZABETH ALBRITAIN, both of that city.

June 3, at Salem chapel, Ipswich, by the Rev. T. Middleditch, Mr GEORGE NORMAN, of Leicester, to Mrs BLOOMFIELD, of Barclay street, Ipswich.

May 31, at the baptist chapel, Lymington, Hants, by the Rev. James Millard, the Rev. F. WILLS, of Milford, Hants, to Mrs ELIZABETH PEDLER, of Lymington.

DEATHS.

May 30, at his residence in Brook street, somewhat suddenly, aged 86, Lord MANNERS.

May 30, at Youlston, near Barnstaple, Sir ARTHUR CHICHESTER.

June 1, at Newport, Launceston, after a short illness, WILLIAM PEARSE, Esq., aged 76; for near sixty years a member of the Wesleyan society.

June 4, at Balham hill, aged 70, THOMAS HELPS, Esq., treasurer of St Bartholomew's hospital.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, June 3.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—

St Oswald's chapel, Bellingham, Northumberland. J. Crawford, superintendent registrar.

INSOLVENT.

LONG, THOMAS, 3, Beaufort place, Chelsea, coal merchant, June 2.

BANKRUPTS.

ASHWORTH, EDMUND, Manchester, innkeeper, to surrender June 20, July 15: solicitors, Messrs Adlington and Co., Bedford row, London, and Mr W. C. Chew, Manchester.

BAINBRIDGE, JOHN, Richmond, Yorkshire, iron founder, June 24, July 15: solicitor, Mr Addison, 8, Mecklenburgh square, London, and Mr J. Munton, Richmond.

BOWER, GEORGE, Wooddale, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer and clothier, June 11, July 15: solicitors, Mr D. Cornthwaite, Dean's court, Doctors' commons, London, and Mr J. Cornthwaite, Liverpool.

CHAPPELOW, WILLIAM, Longacre, bridle cutter, June 17, July 15: solicitor, Mr Hornidge, 16, Bloomsbury square.

GOODER, JOHN, Rastrick, Yorkshire, fancy cloth manufacturer, June 14, July 15: solicitors, Messrs Clarke and Medcalfe, 20, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Messrs Whitehead and Robinson, Huddersfield.

HARPER, WILLIAM, Cowper's court, Cornhill, City, merchant, June 10, July 15: solicitor, Mr Kirkman, King William street, London bridge.

HEPBURN, PETER ANDERSON, late of Hungerford wharf, Strand, but now of 12, Powis place, Hampstead road, bottled beer merchant, June 10, July 15: solicitor, Mr Frowd, Essex street, Strand.

HEYWOOD, CHARLES SAMUEL and WILLIAM, Manchester, but late of Basinghall street, London, warehousemen, June 15, July 15: solicitors, Messrs Reed and Shaw, Friday street, Cheapside, London, and Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester.

JACKSON, HENRY WILLIAM, late of Haverhill, Essex, wine merchant, June 17, July 12: solicitors, Mr Holmes, 6, Liverpool street, London, and Mr J. H. Jardine, Stoke next Clare, Suffolk.

LONGRIDGE, GEORGE WILLIAM, Sunderland, Durham, ironmonger, July 7, 15: solicitor, Mr T. M. Loveland, 6, Symond's inn, Chancery lane, London, and Mr J. M. Cooper, Sunderland.

NOTTINGHAM, JOHN, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, picture dealer, June 15, July 15: solicitors, Messrs Roy and Co., 42, Lothbury, London, and Messrs Bubb and Co., Cheltenham.

QUAIFE, THOMAS, TYRRELL, THOMAS JONES, and QUAIFE, JAMES, late of North end, Fulham, brewers, June 10, July 15: solicitors, Messrs Fyson and Co., 3, Frederick's place, Old Jewry.

WALKER, WILLIAM, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, mercer and draper, June 17, July 15: solicitors, Mr J. Drewry, Burton-upon-Trent, and Messrs Bicknell and Co., 57, Lincoln's inn fields, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BAXTER, A., G., and J., Glasgow, saddlers, June 9, 30.

BLACK, JAMES, Aberdeen, merchant, June 8, 30.

DIVIDENDS.

June 24, Thompson, Princes street, Spitalfields, hat manufacturer—June 24, Jackson, Poultry, City, glass dealer—June 24, Maton and Hudson, Fore street, City, leather sellers—June 25, Chappell, Lawrence lane, City, butcher—June 27, Bailey, 13, Mount street, Grosvenor square, upholsterer—June 27, Thoms, Warwick square, City, printer—June 13, Hutchins, Whitechapel road, linen draper—June 24, Legh, New Windsor, corn dealer—June 22, Johnson, Nantwich, Cheshire, druggist—June 29, Comer, Nantwich, Cheshire, ironmonger—June 25, Marsden, Manchester, corn dealer—June 25, J. and T. Wood, Leeds, cloth manufacturers—June 27, Marshall, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, grocer—June 24, Carr, South Shields, Durham, grocer—June 27, Matson, Rigden, Kent, maltster—June 27, Neech, sen., Kirkley, Suffolk, farmer—July 15, Holt, Livezey, Lancashire, grocer—June 23, Read, Worcester, wine merchant—June 25, Curtis, Ling's Lynn, Norfolk, common brewer—June 28, Prescott, Upholland, Lancashire, innkeeper—June 27, J. and W. Green, Wetherby, Yorkshire, timber merchants—June 28, Macaire and Co., Liverpool, merchants—June 28, Ralton and Favey, Manchester and Colne, Lancashire, dealers—June 27, B. and T. Tattersall, Liverpool, corn merchants.

CERTIFICATES—JUNE 24.

Thornton, Leicester, builder—Hunt, Old Broad street, City, London, and Hamburg, Germany, merchant—Willacy, St Helen's mills, Windle, Lancashire, corn dealer and miller—Batsen and Bissell, Lea-brook iron works, Tipton, Staffordshire, iron masters—St Clair, Birmingham, pawnbroker—Nutt, Stratford green, Essex, merchant—Bull, 91, Minorities, City, grocer and provision merchant—Green, Clifford street, Bond street, tailor—Crowe, Sunderland, Durham, innkeeper—Bowly, Bishopwearmouth, Durham, scrivener—Hunt, jun., of the Moat iron works, Tipton, Staffordshire, iron master.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

S. and J. Darrington, Newgate market, poultry salesmen—Swainson and Clayton, Manchester—Buckle and Co., Mark lane, London—Tinkler and Newbald, Kingston-upon-Hull, engravers—Curtis and Co., Glazenwood, Essex, nurserymen—Marshall and Stoddart, Dantzic, merchants—Mottram and Moore, 75, Lamb's Conduit street, silk mercers—J., C., and G. Mullins, Newington, Surrey, pawnbrokers (so far as regards J. Mullins)—H. and S. Marsland, Broadbottom bridge, Derbyshire, cotton spinners—Patten and Coward, Little Knightbridge street, Doctors' commons, lead merchants—Tait and Milligan, Dumfries, hosiers—Plummer and White, Norwich, bar iron merchants—Martin and Muir, Liverpool, shawl merchants—Dutton and Cockson, Tunbridge Wells, glass dealers—Parker and Higgins, Worcester, attorneys—J. D. and T. G. Williams, Bury St Edmund's, Suffolk, mercers—J. and O. Richards, 194, Fleet street, London, booksellers—J. and I. Fisher, Radford, Nottinghamshire, lace manufacturers—Pearce and Ellis, Haverhill, Suffolk, grocers—B., J., R., and R. W. Butterworth, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, woollen cloth merchants (so far as regards B. Butterworth)—Pullen and Joyce, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, common brewers—North and West, Bradford, Yorkshire, cotton dyers—Coles and Son, Portsmouth, drapers.

Tuesday, June 7.

INSOLVENTS.

WATTS, THOMAS, Rugby, Warwickshire, licensed victualer, June 7.

BANKRUPTS.

BARLOW, JOSIAH, Manchester, hatter, June 21, July 19: solicitors, Mr T. P. Bunting, Manchester, and Messrs Bower and Back, Chancery lane, London.

BARTER, THOMAS, Poole, surgeon, June 25, July 19: solicitors, Messrs Holme and Co., 10, New inn, London, and Messrs Parr, Poole.

BRETTAGH, JOHN, Pendleton, Lancashire, timber dealer, June 20, July 19: solicitors, Mr Marmaduke Foster, Manchester, and Mr Henry Nethersole, Essex street, Strand, London.

GINGER, THOMAS, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, innkeeper, June 17, July 19: solicitors, Mr William Wright, 12, Furnival's inn, London, and Mr Charles Richard Day, Woburn, Bedfordshire.

JONES, THOMAS, Brecon, Breconshire, woolstapler, July 1, 19: solicitors, Messrs Vaughan and Co., Brecon, and Messrs Bicknell and Co., Lincoln's inn-fields, London.

KENNAN, GODWIN PILSWORTH, and SAMSON, AUGUSTUS, late of Manchester, calico printers, June 21, July 19: solicitors, Messrs R. M. and C. Baxter, Lincoln's inn-fields, London; Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester, and Mr Lycett, Manchester.

LAURENCE, WILLIAM, late of 51, Lombard street, but now of 76, King William street, City, money scrivener, June 18, July 19: solicitor, Mr George Cox, 14, Size lane, Bucklersbury.

M'LEOD, NORMAN, and YARROW, CORNELIUS BROWNE, Liverpool, ship brokers, June 25, July 19: solicitors, Messrs Adlington and Co., Bedford row, London, and Messrs Crump and Hassall, Liverpool.

WALKER, HENRY MATTHEW, and CASSON, THOMAS, Manchester, and Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn factors, June 14, July 19: solicitors, Messrs Adlington and Co., 1, Bedford row, London, and Messrs Taylor and Westmorland, Wakefield.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ALEXANDER, ANDREW, Glasgow, wright and builder, June 10, July 1.

ALLAN, JOHN, Edinburgh, grocer, June 17, July 15.

FAIRLEY, GEORGE, Glasgow, builder, June 13, July 4.

HOUSTON, WILLIAM, Glasgow, merchant, June 13, July 5.

TAYLOR, THOMAS, Perth, lately ironmonger, June 10, July 1.

WILKIE, WILLIAM, Edinburgh, paper stainer, June 14, July 5.

DIVIDENDS.

June 28, T. and W. Styan, Great Tower street, City, tea brokers—June 30, Coward, Bath, linen draper—June 30, Shea and Pinn, Great Pulteney street, Golden square, tailors—June 30, F. Herbert, London, late master of the ship Thalia, and J. Herbert, late of Calcutta, East Indies, but now of London, merchants—June 30, Grant, Hatton garden, London, merchant—June 30, Ross and Murray, Leadenhall buildings, Gracechurch street, City, merchants—June 30, Wienholt, late of the Old Swan, City, merchant—June 30, Williams, Finsbury square, Middlesex, merchant—June 28, Lee, Guildford, Surrey, banker—June 28, Cadbury, 24, New Bond street, cheesemonger—June 29, Neumegen, Highgate, Middlesex, bookseller—June 29, Gifford, late of Parsons green, Fulham, Middlesex, schoolmistress—June 30, Parsons, Worthing, Sussex, wine merchant—June 30, Partridge, Birmingham, victualer—June 29, Webster, Liverpool, tailor—July 8, Matthews, Little Town, near Leeds, dyer—July 6, Hughes, Wrexham, Denbighshire, licensed victualer—July 6, Beardsworth, Wrexham, Denbighshire, timber merchant—June 29, Porter, Honiton, Devonshire, victualer—July 6, Webb, Forebridge, Staffordshire, corn dealer—June 28, Hulke and Co., Deal, Kent, bankers—June 29, Legge, Birmingham, builder—June 30, Coles, Victoria Ironworks, Bedwelty, Monmouthshire, apothecary.

CERTIFICATES—JUNE 28.

Tapp, Nelson square, Blackfriars road, victualer—Ross, Brett's buildings, Long alley, Moorfields, victualer—Cox, Nottingham, silk throwster—Pidgeon, Shrewsbury, Salop, tobacconist—Fostet, Bridgwater, Somersetshire, draper—Bayley, 4, Cumberland terrace, Lloyd square, Pentonville, and 39, Lothbury, stock broker—Ridge and Co., Chichester, Sussex, bankers—Williams, Liverpool, merchant.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Page and Smallbone, 12, Long acre, and Newport street, pawnbrokers—J. T. Dimmock, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, timber merchants—Fairbairns and Co., Newbottle, Durham—Gottheimers and Co., 72, Newgate street, City, dealers in foreign

goods—Malcolm and Co., Liverpool, merchants—Woodhouse and Hauge, Manchester, commission agents—D'Amant and Mackrill, 1, Charles place, Hertford road, Kingsland, seedsmen—Barbour and Lobley, Liverpool, general agents—Brearey and Eyre, Derby, auctioneers—Nichols and Roscow, Salford, Lancashire, dyers—J. J. and S. J. Smith, 2, Crescent place, New Bridge street, Blackfriars, wine merchants—Davies and Egginton, Birmingham, silver platers—Hiscocks and Co., Ramsgate, hotel keepers (so far as regards Z. Hiscocks)—Fixsen and Meeson, Queen street, Cheapside, wholesale grocers—Henderson and Emerson, Berwick-upon-Tweed, wine merchants—G. and A. Podmore, Threadneedle street, City, stock brokers—Chauter and Wrigley, engineers—T. and S. Hancock, Sheffield, manufacturers of razors—Hanson and Co., 31, St Martin's-le-grand, Manchester and Scotch warehousemen (so far as regard G. Heather)—Taylor and Howorth, Sheffield, manufacturers of edge tools.

BRITISH FUNDS.

Business in the funds last week was slack, and there has been a fall in prices, in consequence of some money sales of stock made by special transfer. This week the market is somewhat firmer, the news from India being, in its general tenor, considered satisfactory.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols.....	92½	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto for Account.....	93½	—	—	—	—	—
3 per cents. Reduced.....	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
3½ per cents. Reduced.....	100½	100½	100½	100	100½	100½
New 3½ per cent.....	101½	101½	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities.....	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock.....	167½	167½	168½	167½	168	168
India Stock.....	251	250	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills.....	43 pm	43 pm	45 pm	45 pm	45 pm	45 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.....	24 pm	24 pm	24 pm	24 pm	22 pm	22 pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian.....	110½	Mexican.....	36½
Belgian.....	102½	Peruvian.....	19½
Brazilian.....	67½	Portuguese 5 per cents.....	65
Buenos Ayres.....	23	Ditto 3 per cents.....	21½
Columbian.....	26	Russian.....	113½
Danish.....	81	Spanish Active.....	22
Dutch 2½ per cents.....	52½	Ditto Passive.....	4
Ditto 5 per cents.....	101½	Ditto Deferred.....	10

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton.....	35
Birmingham and Derby.....	49	London and Croydon Trunk ..	14
Birmingham and Gloucester ..	51	London and Greenwich.....	6½
Blackwall.....	11	Ditto New.....	17½
Bristol and Exeter.....	44	Manchester and Birmingham ..	26½
Cheltenham and Gt. Western.....	23½	Manchester and Leeds.....	84
Eastern Counties.....	9½	Midland Counties.....	74
Edinburgh and Glasgow.....	53½	Ditto Quarter Shares.....	24
Great North of England.....	83	North Midland.....	66
Great Western.....	87½	Ditto New.....	34
Ditto New.....	61½	South Eastern and Dover.....	24½
Ditto Fife.....	11	South Western.....	63
London and Birmingham.....	177	Ditto New.....	10½
Ditto Quarter Shares.....	31½		

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, June 6.

There was a good supply of English wheat last week, and a large arrival of foreign; and there was again a fair show of land-carriage samples to-day. The best obtained last Monday's quotations, but all other sorts were rather cheaper, and some quantity remained unsold at the close of the market. In free foreign very little doing, and some decline would be submitted to.

Good grinding barley was inquired for, and fully maintained prices.

There was a speculative demand for bonded oats, and a moderately good trade in British corn, at 6d. to 1s. per qr advance.

Peas of all sorts were 1s. higher, but in beans no alteration.

Indian corn is wanted for Ireland, and is 2s. dearer.

Flour in bond being generally held for rather higher prices, very little is doing.

Wheat, Red New 50 to 57	Malt, Ordinary.. 48 to 53	Beans, Old..... 34 to 37
Fine..... 56 .. 63	Pale..... 56 .. 60	Harrow..... 29 .. 32
White..... 52 .. 60	Peas, Hog..... 27 .. 29	Oats, Feed..... 18 .. 20
Fine..... 64 .. 70	Maple..... 30 .. 33	Fine..... 21 .. 24
Rye..... 32 .. 36	Boilers..... 33 .. 36	Poland..... 22 .. 26
Barley..... 22 .. 26	Beans, Ticks..... 26 .. 30	Potato..... 20 .. 22
Malting..... 30 to 32		

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JUNE 3.	AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF SIX WEEKS.	DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.
Wheat..... 61s. 10d.	Wheat..... 60s. 9d.	Wheat..... 12s. 0d.
Barley..... 25 11	Barley..... 26 9	Barley..... 10 0
Oats..... 19 7	Oats..... 19 5	Oats..... 7 0
Rye..... 33 7	Rye..... 32 4	Rye..... 10 6
Beans..... 32 1	Beans..... 31 7	Beans..... 10 6
Peas..... 30 11	Peas..... 31 2	Peas..... 10 6

SEEDS.

Seeds of all kinds were held firmly this morning, the continued dry weather being regarded as prejudicial to the growing crops. Canaryseed was decidedly dearer.

Linseed, English, sowing 50s. to 55s. per qr	Coriander..... 10s. to 16s. per wt.
Baltic, ditto..... — .. —	Old..... 16 .. 18
Ditto, crushing..... 46 .. 50	Canary, new..... 75 .. 78
Mediter. and Odessa..... 50 .. 52	Extra..... 80 .. 95
Clover, English, red..... — .. — per cwt.	Carraway, old..... 50 .. 52
Ditto, white..... — .. —	New..... 48 .. 52
Flemish, red..... — .. —	Mustard, brown, new 10 .. 14 pr bush.
Ditto, white..... — .. —	White..... 9 .. 13
New Hamburg, red..... — .. —	Trefoil..... 16 .. 35
Ditto, white..... — .. —	Rye grass, English..... 30 .. 42
Old Hamburg, red..... — .. —	Scotch..... 18 .. 40
Ditto, white..... — .. —	Tares, winter..... — .. — per qr.
French, red..... — .. —	New..... 4 .. 5 pr bush.
Ditto, white..... — .. —	Rapeseed, English, new 40l. .. 48l. pr last
Hempseed, small..... 36 .. 41	Linseed cakes, English 10l. 10s. to 11l.
Large..... 46 .. 48	Foreign..... 8l. to 8l. 10s.
	Rapeseed cakes..... 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, June 6.

The business transacted was on a limited scale. There was a moderate demand for Irish butter. Of old some sales were made at 50s. to 63s.; of new Waterford, at 88s. to 90s. landed, and on board at 84s. to 86s. per cwt; but the dealers take sparingly and with caution. Foreign being in good supply, prices were again lower. The best Friesland sold at 92s. to 93s.; Kiel, 90s. to 92s.; Holland, 88s. to 90s.; Leer and Embden, 80s. to 84s. In bacon but little doing, and the price is about 1s. per cwt less than last quoted. Bale and tierce middles have been offered on lower terms, and but few sold. Hams and lard stationary, and no change in beef or pork.

HOPS, BOROUGH, June 6.

Since our last report, the accounts from the plantations have been contradictory, and the advanced prices have consequently not been maintained. The fly being said to be on the decrease, the duty at one time last week got up from £95,000 to £150,000; but recent letters notice again a greater prevalence of the insect, and the price of hops, though still very unsteady, is up again, while the duty is down to £100,000.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, June 6.

Notwithstanding the attendance of town and country buyers was not large, the beef trade was considerably renovated, and an advance of quite 2d. per 8lbs. was readily obtained for all descriptions, and a clearance was speedily made by the salesmen. With sheep we were fully supplied, while the mutton trade was slow at the currencies obtained on this day's night, and a few of them were turned out unsold. Prime small lambs sold freely at full prices. Owing to the supply of calves being great, the inquiry for them was slow, at barely last week's quotations. The pork trade ruled dull, but without any alteration in figures.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).			
Beef.....	3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal.....	4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d.
Mutton.....	3 4 .. 4 4	Pork.....	4 0 .. 5 0
Lamb.....	5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.		
HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.			
Beasts.....	436	Sheep.....	8,630
Calves.....	418	Pigs.....	311
Friday.....	2,374		
Monday.....	2,744		

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, June 6.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.			
Inferior Beef.....	3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.	Inferior Mutton.....	3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.
Middling ditto.....	3 2 .. 3 4	Middling ditto ..	3 8 .. 3 10
Prime large ditto.....	3 4 .. 3 6	Prime ditto.....	4 0 .. 4 2
Prime small ditto.....	3 6 .. 3 8	Veal.....	4 0 .. 5 0
Large Pork.....	4 0 .. 4 6	Small Pork.....	4 10 .. 5 0
Lamb.....	5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.		

POTATOES, SOUTHWARK, June 6.

During the past week there have been received—from Scotland, 620 tons; Yorkshire, 585; Guernsey, 110; Devons, 335; Kent and Essex, 85; total, 1735 tons. The above supply has proved equivalent to the demand, and the season for old potatoes is now rapidly drawing to a close.

York Reds.....	per ton 90s. to 100s.	Wisbeach.....	per ton —s. to —s.
Scotch.....	80 .. 85	Jersey and Guernsey Blues ..	70 .. 80
Irish.....	— .. —	Jersey Whites.....	— .. —
Devons.....	80 .. 90	Kent, Essex, and Suffolk Whites	60 .. 70

WOOL, June 6.

There have been rather less inquiries this week for foreign wool of all descriptions, which is attributed principally to the great number of buyers that have left for the Liverpool wool sale, and the German wool fairs, now progressing.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, June 4.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay.....	45s. to 70s.	New Clover Hay.....	—s. to —s.
Old ditto.....	— .. —	Old ditto.....	80 .. 115
Useful old ditto.....	75 .. 84	Oat Straw.....	36 .. 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	85 .. 90	Wheat Straw.....	38 .. 40

COAL EXCHANGE, June 6.

Stewart's, 20s. 6d.; Haswell, 20s.; Caradoc's, 20s. 6d.; Belloc's, 19s. 9d. Ships arrived this week, 253.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JUNE 7.

TEA.—The amount of business done to-day in the market was upon a small scale only, but holders were firm and obtained full rates; the lowest price for sound Congou is 1s. 7½d. cash.

SUGAR.—Very little business was transacted, and there was no alteration in prices.

TALLOW.—There was little business done, but prices keep up, and P. Y. candle on the spot is not to be had under 48s. 6d. per cwt.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

For Bilious, Liver, and Stomach Complaints, Indigestions, Sick Head-ache, &c.

FROUD'S COMPOUND HEPATIC PILLS.

PILLS, an effectual remedy for preventing and removing those distressing diseases to which the LIVER and STOMACH are liable; the symptoms of which are known by the general term of BILIOUS COMPLAINTS, when the patient suffers Pain in the Head, Giddiness, Drowsiness, Dimness of Sight, Acidity and Pain in the Stomach, Redness of Urine, Pains in the Back, Jaundice or Yellowness of the Eyes and Skin, &c. Also, Loss of Appetite, Bitterness and unpleasant Taste in the Mouth, Flatulency or Wind, Heartburn, Restlessness in the Night, a sense of Sinking in the Stomach, Langour, Depression of the Spirits, &c., all which distressing Complaints,

FROUD'S COMPOUND HEPATIC PILLS

are in an eminent degree calculated to prevent, and should they be of long standing in the constitution, a steady perseverance in the remedy now offered, will remove. They are not intended as a panacea for every disorder of the body, but those only which are primarily and immediately connected with the Liver and Stomach; and the symptoms above stated, will be found in a greater or less degree in every person labouring under a diseased Liver or Indigestion.

These Pills are gentle and pleasant in their operation, require no confinement, nor alteration of diet, and may be taken with perfect safety by individuals from the age of childhood to grey hairs.—Females also will derive essential benefit from them, as they will regulate and improve the general state of their health.

Prepared only by JAMES FROUD, Druggist, &c., DORCHESTER. Price 1s. 1½d. each Box.

None are genuine but those which bear the Proprietor's Signature, "James Froud," on the Government Stamp round each box.

The high estimation in which these Pills are held by the Public, justifies the Proprietor in stating, that Per-

sons afflicted with Bilious Complaints and Disorders of the Stomach and Head, will find in them that remedy which they have hitherto sought in vain from other sources—indeed, they have been known to produce the happiest effects in numberless instances.

LONDON AGENTS:—Messrs. Sutton and Co., 10, Bow Churchyard; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, 95, Farringdon Street; Messrs. Butler and Co., 4, Cheapside; Mr. Sanger, 150, Oxford Street.

COUNTRY AGENTS:—Birling, Weymouth; Beach and Co., Bridport; Marder, Lyme; Wills, Axminster; Porter, Yeovil; Penny, Sherborne; Shipp, Blandford; Galpin, Crewkerne; Pitt, Wareham; Lancaster, Poole; Hitchcock, Taunton; Brodie and Co., Salisbury; Butler and Co., Shaftesbury; Wheaton, Ringwood; Herbert, Wimborne; Wheaton, Exeter; Griffiths, Christchurch; Sharp, Portsmouth; Allnutt, Portsea; Randall, Southampton; Woodward, Bridgewater; Aldridge, Bristol; Barker, Manchester; Ching, Launceston; Thomas, Truro; Williams, Honiton; Toms, Chard; Hillyer, Cowes; Roger, Newport; Greenfield, Ryde; Thomas, Andover; Williams, Ilminster; Grove, Lymington; Forder, Winchester; Gray, Romsey; Cottle, Basingstoke; Nicholls, Farnham; Penny, Frome; and by all other Patent Medicine venders.

THE READERS of the "NONCONFORMIST" are respectfully requested to peruse the following Letter from Mr JOHN NOBLE, the well known Boston Bookseller, to Messrs T. ROBERTS and CO., sole Proprietors of PARR'S LIFE PILLS, 9, Crane Court, Fleet Street, London.

"GENTLEMEN—Send me immediately one hundred dozen boxes of PARR'S LIFE PILLS, as I am nearly without, and the sale increases astonishingly, the above number making my sale no fewer than 6250 boxes since last August. The pills appear to be a universal panacea, for they are used successfully for most of the 'ills that flesh is heir to,' numbers of persons having assured me

that they have derived from them the greatest benefit, when other medicines have totally failed. Among other instances, one has just been brought before me of a cure of shortness of breath, &c., in the case of Mr William Rossington, the superintendent of the Boston sheep market, and consequently a man well known and easily referred to, who says, 'Having tried numerous medicines for a stuffing in my chest and difficulty of breathing without success, I at length tried 'Old Parr's Pills,' and am happy to say they have entirely cured me. I consider these pills such an excellent family medicine, that I will never suffer my house to be without them.'

"My stock being nearly exhausted, I hope you will lose no time in forwarding the parcel."

"Gentlemen, yours truly,

"JOHN NOBLE,

"January 29, 1842.

Market Place, Boston."

CAUTION—BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

In order to protect the public from imitations, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have ordered the words "PARR'S LIFE PILLS," to be engraved on the government stamp, which is pasted round the sides of each box, in WHITE letters on a RED ground. Without this mark of authenticity they are spurious and an imposition! Prepared only by the proprietors, T. Roberts and Co., 9, Crane Court, Fleet Street, London, and sold wholesale by their appointment, by E. Edwards, 67, St Paul's; also by Barclay and Sons, Farringdon Street; and Sutton and Co., Bow Church Yard, and retail by at least one agent in every town in the United Kingdom, and by most respectable dealers in medicine. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and family boxes 11s. each. Full directions are given with each box.

GRATIS.—The Life and Times of Thomas Parr, who lived to be 152 years of age, 32 pages, with fine engravings, anecdotes, poetry, &c., and Remarks on Disease, Health, and the Means of Prolonging Life, may be had gratis of all agents for the sale of PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

MR FOSTER is instructed to **SELL OFF**, without reserve, on the Premises, corner of Fleet Street, the whole of the **STOCK**, valued at £27,000, consisting of fine Irish Linen, Hamburgh Damask Cloths, Sheetings, Carpets, &c. For prices, see Advertisement in another column. Catalogues to be had at the Office; or on the Premises, 105, Fleet Street.

FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY POUNDS.—The **MANAGERS** of an **INDEPENDENT CHAPEL** are desirous of borrowing the above sum. They can offer good security, and are willing to pay 4½ per cent Interest, and to engage to pay it Half-yearly. Apply to A. B. Chard, Somerset.

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SELF LIGHTING SEALING WAX. "All who have to conduct epistolary correspondences, and wish to do so with some degree of taste, neatness, or elegance—with safety, cleanliness, or despatch, should use the self-lighting sealing wax. A holder is supplied by the inventors, which also serves as a seal; and thus, in the twinkling of an eye, is a letter securely closed."—*Weekly Dispatch*. Sold at all Stationers and Chemists; wholesale, at the Patentee's Office, 11, Poultry, London.

PURE Carbonate of Soda 1s. per lb.
Tartaric Acid 2s. "
Tasteless Salts 1s. "
N.B. A tea-spoonful of Tasteless Salts, and half a tea-spoonful of the Acid and Soda, put into a tumbler of Water, make a Seidlitz Draught, an excellent Aperient Medicine entirely tasteless.
Seidlitz Powders } 1s. 6d.
Ginger Beer do } 1s.
Lemonade do } 1s.
Soda Water do, for 24 glasses, 1s.
At GRIFFITHS'S, 41, Clerkenwell Green, London.

SPRING HILL COLLEGE, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ANNIVERSARY of **SPRING HILL COLLEGE** will be held on **TUESDAY**, the 21st, and **WEDNESDAY**, the 22nd, of **JUNE**. On Tuesday, the 21st, the General Meeting of Trustees and Subscribers will be held in Ebenezer School Room, at 12 o'clock in the Forenoon, when the Report will be read, and the Committee for the ensuing year be chosen. On the Evening of the same day, a Discourse will be delivered by the Rev. Dr VAUGHAN of Kensington, at Ebenezer Chapel; Service to commence at Seven o'clock. On Wednesday Morning, at Nine o'clock, there will be a **PUBLIC BREAKFAST** at Dee's Hotel, when the Friends of the Institution are respectfully requested to be present.

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STEPHENS' WRITING FLUIDS.—These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of Steel Pens, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary ink. In warm climates they have become essential.

They consist of a Blue Fluid, changing to an intense Black colour.
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Also a new kind of Marking Ink for Linen; and Ink-holders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and Dust.

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In this Work the Author argues that the mental powers of Woman are equal, and her moral feelings superior, to those of Men.

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Neatly bound in cloth, gilt, price £1 6s.
Royal paper, cloth, gilt, 2s.

A GUIDE TO FAMILY DEVOTION;
Containing 730 HYMNS, 730 PRAYERS, and 730 PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE, with suitable REFLECTIONS. Also, an APPENDIX, comprising a great variety of Prayers to suit particular days, seasons, circumstances, and events of Providence. The whole arranged to form a distinct and complete Service for every Morning and Evening in the Year. By the Rev. ALEXANDER FLETCHER, Author of "Scripture History," "Lectures to Children," "Cottage's Friend," &c. Embellished with a Portrait and Fifteen Engravings.

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Extract from a Letter by the Rev. J. Harris, D.D., Author of "Mammon."

"The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and, as far as I have had the opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion."

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"A superficial survey of it ('A Guide to Family Devotion') is sufficient to manifest that its plan is the most complete of any with which I am acquainted, embracing everything which the service of the family altar requires or admits of; while its execution is also such as to entitle it to commendation, and secure for it the circulation and use which it deserves."

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"I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate."

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"I highly prize your volume of 'Family Devotion,' and think it well adapted to secure the objects to which you aspire. The selections of scripture are judicious; the sacred songs which you have introduced are appropriate and diversified; and, as a whole, I think the work is likely to prove a valuable aid to the piety of households."

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"I consider it a vast advantage to persons who begin house-keeping, if unaccustomed to extemporaneous prayer, to have such a help to devotion as your work affords. Many, especially females, have felt considerable difficulty in conducting family worship for want of a selection of scriptures adapted to family reading: this difficulty your work meets, and cannot but be appreciated by a large class of the Christian community. The work appears to me to be executed devotionally, which, in my opinion, is a strong recommendation of its excellency. With many sincere wishes for its success,"

"Surrey Chapel House. J. SHERMAN."

"I have been particularly pleased with the adaptation of the several hymns, portions of scripture, and prayers, to each other. The general character of the whole is excellent; and I trust the work will be found eminently useful in the promotion of domestic piety. That result will, doubtless, be esteemed by you an ample reward for the labour you must have expended."

"York. JAMES PARSONS."

"I regard this 'Guide' as eminently calculated to lead on to the fulfilment of that prophecy, 'Elijah shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.' Much both of the mantle and the spirit of Elijah has fallen upon the author of this timely work."

"Maberley Chapel. ROBERT PHILIP."

"The evangelical strain of the prayers gives them an advantage over most other forms which have been published for families: I mean, not only the savour of evangelical feeling and motive with which they are imbued, but the frequent addresses which are intermingled to each divine person of the triune Jehovah. I trust that your labours will lead many families to a practical use and enjoyment of the glorious privileges of the gospel."

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Vicar of St Stephen's, Coleman Street."

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REPORT OF THE BAPTIST UNION, 1842.

Just published, price One Shilling.

AN ACCOUNT of the **PROCEEDINGS** of the Thirtieth Annual Session of the **BAPTIST UNION**, held in London April 25, 26, 28, and 29, 1842; with the **REPORT** of the **STATE** of the **DENOMINATION**, and an Appendix.

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To this Essay the prize of 200 Guineas has been awarded.

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— Dr WARDLAW, Glasgow.
— H. MELVILLE, B.D., Camberwell, London.
— Dr BUNTING, London.
— T. S. CRISP, Baptist College, Bristol.

London: T. WARD AND CO., Paternoster Row.

GREAT SELLING OFF BY MR

FOSTER, the Accountant.—Mr Foster has instructions to submit for **SALE**, in lots, as prepared for Auction, £27,000 worth of **LINEN DRAPERY GOODS**, being the Stock advertised for Auction on the Premises, corner of Fleet Street and Farringdon Street, trading under the firm of Hebblewhite and Co., notice having been given that an auction is not permitted by the lease. Mr Foster, in calling attention to this immense sale of goods, begs to remind ladies and families that they are not expected to realise more than half the original cost, the object being to clear the whole off the premises, and any portion remaining must of necessity be removed to his Auction Rooms. Ladies are solicited to make allowances for the awkwardness of the assistants, being mostly young men from his office, consequently unused to this method of selling goods over the counter. The following are about the reductions intended to be made. The Linens, being the larger portion, will be reduced as under:

730 pieces of Irish Linen, mostly Knox's make, that s. d, cost from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 2d. per yard, ladies may choose from all, at 26 yards for 25 0
About 850 of his curiously-fine numbers, worth from 2s. 9d. to 3s. 3d. per yard, will be likewise reduced to 26 yards for 40 0
1000 or more pieces that are soiled, amongst which are some warranted fabrics, will be reduced to 26 yards for 21 0

The Sheetings and Table Linen require particular notice. The respectable family trade carried on for thirty years at the establishment rendered it necessary to keep none but fine and warranted goods; consequently ladies will not be subjected to the chances usual on selling-off stocks of risking the durability. Fifty pieces of linen sheeting are reduced to be sold in the length only at 4s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. the pair, those at 10s. 6d. being three yards wide, and real Barnsley manufacture, having originally cost 2s. 9d. per yard. Should the length be found inconvenient, a further reduction will be made in the price. The table cloths, although of the finest description, are mostly soiled; consequently the reduction must be immense. Some superb damask cloths, three yards long, will be sold as low as 6s. 6d. each; lots of good linen breakfast cloths will be marked from 1s. to 2s. 6d. each; and about 130 cloths, from three to six yards long, many worth three to four guineas, will be sold none higher than fifty shillings.

The blankets will be sold, two yards long (larger s. d. sizes in proportion), the pair 4 0

A lot of blankets, that weigh eight pounds, will be sold, the pair 8 0

A bale of counterpanes, many near three yards long, will be sold, all each 2 9

About 800 expensive quilts, that cost 21s. to 25s., will be all sold, each 10 6

160 dozen of cambric handkerchiefs, worth 1s. 9d. each, will be sold, by the dozen only, at 9 6

A lot of lawn ditto will be reduced to, the dozen .. 4 9

Horrock's long cloths, usually sold to the trade at 6d. per yard, will be sold, 40 yards for 12 6

Prints will be reduced, all under 4s. 6d. the dress, to 2 6

All Sherriff's and Cobden's best prints, usually so expensive, will be sold, the dress 4 0

In this stock are also about £4000 worth of shawls, silks, &c., which Mr Foster respectfully invites the trade to inspect, as large buyers can have goods at their own price. Mr Foster would not have undertaken this sale, had he not felt satisfied of the character of the goods to be sold, and ladies may depend that every article will fully answer the description given in this advertisement, or at the time of sale. The principal part of the stock having been kept in their warehouse show-rooms, will be found in good condition; and any person buying in large quantities, no obstacle will exist in the way of price. Also a liberal discount will be allowed off the bill when it exceeds £10.

Mr Foster particularly directs the attention of families requiring carpets—many superb patterns in rich Brussels will be sold without reference to the cost; good qualities at 2s. 2d. and 2s. 6d. per yard; several lots of yard-wide Kidderminster, excellent qualities, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 9d. Letters containing a remittance strictly attended to.

Observe, the sale is now on at Hebblewhite and Co.'s Warehouses, 105, Fleet street, corner of Farringdon street. Omnibuses pass every minute from all parts of the town. It will be found most convenient for carriages to set down in Farringdon street.

Printed and Published at the Office, a No. 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, near Fetter Lane, in the City of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No. 76, York Road, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY, 8th of JUNE, 1842.